

**Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey
Reconnaissance Survey Final Report
of
Perkins County, Nebraska
prepared for
Nebraska State Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Office**

by

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Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey

The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NEHBS) is an ongoing project of the State Historic Preservation Office. Since its beginnings in 1974 with limited fieldwork by staff and student interns, NEHBS has expanded from a few thousand sites in urban and rural areas to over 40,000 recorded properties in three-fourths of the state. By 1992, the office plans to cover the entire state.

Through its documentation of the state's historic and architectural resources, NEHBS provides a basis for historic preservation in Nebraska. Survey data is used to list buildings in the National Register, which in turn may result in recognition and preservation. NEHBS data is also used to determine needs for further documentation and planning for the state's historic places. A brief description of Historic Preservation Office programs follows.

Equally important, while contributing to the history of the entire state, the survey also promotes local and regional awareness of significant buildings and sites. County officials, historical societies, planning organizations, and individuals are encouraged to use the information for community development, tourism, and historic preservation in their own communities.

National Register

The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey, which documents historic buildings and places throughout the state, also identifies those that may qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Established in 1966, the National Register is America's official inventory of sites, buildings, and districts, recognized for their importance to national, state, and local history. To qualify for listing, properties must be at least

fifty (50) years old and have associations with one or more of the following: historic events, significant individuals, architecture, or future research potential.

Tax Incentive Program

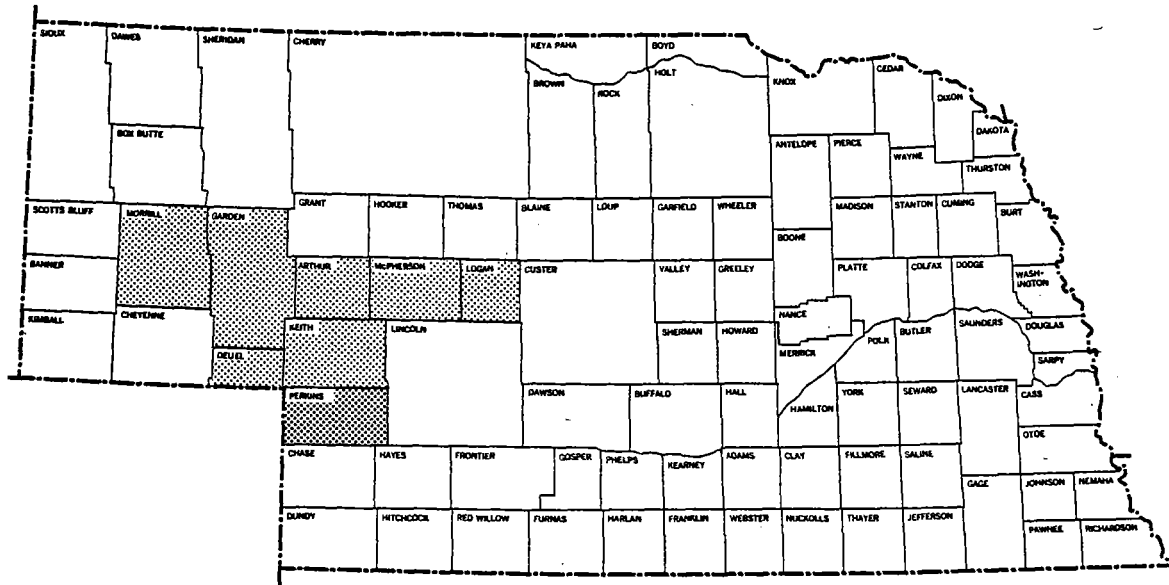
Inclusion in the National Register may enable income-producing properties to qualify for federal tax credits as certified rehabilitation projects. Designed to encourage the reuse and revitalization of historic buildings, neighborhoods, and "main street" districts, the tax incentives have been available since 1976. The program seeks to promote the reuse of historic buildings, including community redevelopment efforts and economic opportunities by retaining the distinctive qualities of buildings or districts.

Review and Compliance

The Historic Buildings Survey is an important source of information for the State Historic Preservation Office and government agencies when complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Commonly referred to as "review and compliance," Section 106 was established to ensure the documentation and protection of buildings and sites which may be affected by any federally funded or licensed project, such as highway construction. NEHBS survey data enables preservation staff and federal agencies to evaluate potentially affected properties and upon evaluation, to seek methods to mitigate the effect of these projects on important resources.

These and other programs are administered in Nebraska by the State Historic Preservation Office. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the office.

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Western Nebraska Sandhills and High Plains Survey Area

The architectural research firm of Save America's Heritage was selected by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NESHPO) and engaged in a contractual agreement to conduct the Western Nebraska Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey. The survey consisted of the completed preliminary fieldwork in eight western Nebraska counties: Morrill, Deuel, Perkins, Keith, Garden, Arthur, McPherson, and Logan. Initiated in September, 1989, the survey was completed in the summer of 1990. With the completion of the eight-county project, the Western Nebraska Sandhills and High Plains were the third region of the state to be completed under the NESHPO's plan for preliminary statewide coverage by 1991-92.

The primary objective of the survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic material resources extant in the western Nebraska region. Another primary objective of the survey was the identification of a definitive group of historic properties judged eligible or potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places

(NRHP). The Historic Buildings Survey of Perkins County has accomplished this goal by identifying a total of 34 historic properties considered eligible or potentially eligible for the NRHP. In addition to the completion of these primary goals, several of the survey's secondary goals were also satisfied. These include the identification of specific building types or construction methods which either related to or were unique to the historic built environment of Nebraska, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement and building technologies.

The following table outlines the numerical results of the Perkins County Historic Buildings Survey. The results included in parentheses indicate those properties previously surveyed by the NESHPO. The numbers are summarized according to the NEHBS number prefixes for rural and town locations.

Numerical Summary of Perkins County Reconnaissance Survey

PERKINS COUNTY	TOTAL PROPERTIES	CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS	CONTRIBUTING SITES	CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES	CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS
PR00: Rural	75	289	1	3	40
PR01: Brandon	1	1	0	0	0
PR02: Elsie	16	17	0	1	2
PR04: Grant	48 (1)	66 (1)	0	0	12
PR05: Madrid	18	30	0	1	1
PR06: Venango	15	24	0	1	2
<hr/>					
TOTAL NUMBER SURVEYED					
IN FY 1989-1990:	173 (1)	427 (1)	1	6	57
TOTAL NEHBS TO DATE:	174	428	1	6	57

Approximated Area of Survey Coverage: 443.9 square miles (284,080 acres)

Numbers in parenthesis indicate previously surveyed properties

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Physical Description

Perkins County is located in southwestern part of the state at the Nebraska-Colorado border. The high plains of Perkins County is the heartland of the Great Plains environment, a vast grasslands. The county is bordered by Colorado to the west, Keith County to the north, Lincoln county to the east and by Chase and Hayes Counties to the south.

With a relatively deep water table, water has always been an elusive element in the region of Perkins County. The county has an average of 15 to 21 inches of rainfall per year. Precipitation often comes in bursts of violent thunderstorms or blizzards in the winter months: this rapid accumulation of water often results in "run off" and soil erosion.

Perkins County is part of Nebraska's High Plains geographic zone which is characterized by flat lying land similar to the Central Plains zone, which is composed of sandstone or stream-deposited silt, sand, clay and gravel overlain with loess. The eastern section of the zone is also composed of scattered segments of sandhills which, unlike the Sand Hills zone, are stabilized by sandsage prairie grasses. Lodgepole Creek and the South Platte River transect the zone from east to west. Quantities of limestone of the White River formation outcrop along Lodgepole Creek and Sidney Draw (NESHPO, 1989, "Historical Contexts in Nebraska, Topical Listings)."

Original Inhabitants

Prior to nineteenth-century white settlement, the Pawnee and Sioux tribes claimed the

land of the Sandhills as hunting grounds. The two tribes disputed various tracts between themselves. The Pawnee claimed the drainage area of the Loup River as their hunting grounds and camped near the mouth of the river. The Sioux claimed lands east to the forks of the Platte and north to the mouth of the White River in South Dakota as their hunting grounds. Both tribes depended on the bison, which roamed the sandhills in vast numbers, as their primary source of food and raw material.

Other Native American tribes in Nebraska included the Omahas, the Otoe and the Ponca, all of whom were more sedentary than the Sioux or Pawnee, and other tribes claimed had been acquired by the federal government either through treaty and/or coercion. The final treaty, in 1876, opened the sandhills region to settlement.

Settlement of Nebraska

The first Europeans to reach what would become Nebraska were Spanish soldiers in search of mythical Quivira (Olson, page 29). By the early 1700's the French had begun to move into the trans-Missouri country. In 1763 the Spanish, through that year's Treaty of Paris, had possession of all land west of the Mississippi. In 1800 the French took possession of the region under the Treaty of San Ildefonso. However, in 1803 the French, under Napoleon, sold this vast expanse of land to the Americans for about four cents an acre, or \$15,000,000 U.S. dollars. The Louisiana Purchase, as the exchange was called, included the territory that would become the State of Nebraska.

In 1803 the Americans began plans to initiate the exploration of their new possession with the famed Lewis and Clark Expedition. This expedition was undertaken, "for purposes of extending the external commerce of the United States," with Congress appropriating \$2,500.00 (Olson, page 36). In the Spring of 1804 the members of the exploration team left

the St. Louis area and by July of 1804 had made their first camp, in the area that would become Nebraska, near the mouth of the Little Nemaha River. The expedition passed through Nebraska and continued to the Pacific Ocean.

Although the area to become Nebraska was part of a vast expanse of land west of the Mississippi to be designated by an 1834 Act of Congress as land for Native Americans, the region was traversed by fur trappers and traders, missionaries and settlers headed further west between the years of 1804 and 1854, when the Territory of Nebraska was officially opened to settlement. Some of the early establishments of western culture in Nebraska included Fort Atkinson in the 1820's and the Merrill Mission in Bellevue.

Another aspect of settlement in Nebraska, both prior to official opening of the territory and after, were the famous Oregon, Mormon and California Trails, all of which passed through the southern half of the state. All these trails passed westward along the Platte River and were used between 1841 and 1848.

The Territory of Nebraska was officially established in 1854, with the first legislature convening in January, 1855. Between 1854 and 1862 the majority of settlement took place in the southeast and eastern sections of the state. In this period, settlement was done through either the provisions of the Pre-Emption Law of 1841, which allowed a settler to file a claim on 160 acres and pay \$1.25 per acre at time of sale, through the purchase of military bounty land warrants or through direct purchase. The Homestead Act of 1862 allowed for more liberal disbursement of the public domain. This act allowed settlers to acquire between 40 and 160 acres of land without the standard per acre fee if he/she remained on the claim for 5 years and meet a specified level of improvements (i.e., buildings, and land under cultivation). Settlement in the western reaches of the State occurred under this act, or later under the provisions of the 1904 Kinkaid Act.

Nebraska became a state in 1867 with its present borders defined. In the early 1860's the country began planning a transcontinental railway line for the transportation of people and goods which would unite the country. The railroad would extend through the territory, and then state, of Nebraska with a site near Omaha as the eastern terminus of the line. In 1867 the route was completed when the Union Pacific and Central Pacific Lines joined in Utah. The development of the line through Nebraska had a major impact on the settlement and growth of the small towns and communities throughout the western region of the state, and the state as a whole. Inland counties, without a railroad through their borders, generally developed at a slower rate and often did not achieve the kinds of settlement and sustained populations found in counties through which a line ran. In counties where the line did run, a town, or proposed town, could either prosper or fail depending on the decision made by the railroad company whether or not to place a depot or siding in the town.

While the eastern, northeastern, and central regions of the state had been settled by the late 1880's, the Sandhills region of Nebraska was only just beginning to be settled. This region, encompassing a great portion of the western section of the state north of the Platte River, was generally not suitable for the kinds of agricultural activities pursued in the rest of the state. Since the 1870's, cattlemen had free-ranged vast herds in the area. In the late 1860's and early 1870's, Texas cattlemen began to drive their herds north on the Texas Trail to feed in Nebraska. These early ranchers would later come into conflict with settlers and federal government regarding the fencing of lands and free-range ranching. Although settlement had begun in the Sandhills region it had progressed at a slow pace. Railroads had entered the region however, and along the lines development was more marked.

In 1904 the Kinkaid Act was effected. This act was designed to encourage settlement in the Sandhills region and allowed a homesteader to file for a 640 acre claim, as opposed to the usual 160 acres. This act recognized that the arid Sandhills required that the settler possess a greater land area in order to be successful in either agriculture or ranching. The Kinkaid Act was of great importance to the settlement of the Sandhills, resulting, in many of the counties, peak populations by 1920. Although many of the settlers eventually sold out to larger ranching endeavors, this act successfully disposed of the public domain in the area.

The success, in terms of social and economic development of the period between 1900 and 1930, came to an end with the drought and depression of the 1930's. Many people left the western section of the state during this time and some towns ceased to exist. Populations declined in general, and much commercial development came to a halt. The end of the drought and the slow rebuilding of the economy, followed by the impact of World War II combined to stabilize not only this region but the country as a whole. Economically the state benefited from the War in terms of new industry and increased motivation. The post-war years and the 1950's were ones of economic development and stability generally intact until the economic and farm crises of the 1970's and 80's.

County History

Early activity in what would become Perkins County during the Settlement and Expansion Period, 1867-1890, centered around the cattle trade. The Texas Trail, used to bring cattle to the plains to feed, extended through the region; a Nebraska Historical Marker has been placed in the county to mark this trail. The Texas Trail ran by the eastern shore of Stinking Creek, past what is now the town of Madrid.

Keith County was organized in 1873 and included the area that would become Perkins County in 1887. The county seat of Keith County is Ogallala. The origins and development of Keith County and the town of Ogallala were greatly influenced by two facts: first, the county was traversed by thousands of settlers heading west on the Oregon, Mormon, and California Trails. Settlers, gold miners and others made these routes the "highways" of the era and brought the need for outposts of civilization along the way. Very early outposts included a log cabin built before 1854 and a trading post near the present site of Brule. The second important development was the construction of the Trans-Pacific Railroad. The railroad reached Ogallala in the early 1860's, and the village was the terminus for a short period of time. In 1872, a cattle pen and chute were constructed and Ogallala began to gain importance as a cattle shipping point.

In 1884 the region was becoming fully settled. The area that was to become Perkins County differed from that of Keith. The lands south of the Platte River are classified as High Plains while those north are classified as Sand Hills. This difference and the sheer size of Keith County were factors in the eventual separation of the two areas into separate counties. Another important factor in Perkins county development was the construction of a railroad line from Holdrege, Nebraska to Cheyenne, Wyoming, in 1886 by the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. By 1887, the first train had arrived in the region. With the development of the railroad, town sites developed in southern Keith County. Grant, which had been founded in 1886, relocated to its present site to be on the rail line. Other railroad towns included Elsie, Madrid, Venango, and Lisbon.

Because of the various factors mentioned above, as well as the long distance to Ogallala for business purposes, the people of southern Keith county petitioned for the establishment of their own county in the summer of 1887. In the November, 1887, election

the proposition to divide Keith County east by west was voted on and carried, creating the present boundaries of both Keith and Perkins Counties. Following the election of county officials, the first order of business was to establish a county seat. As was often the case in new counties, various communities battled over which site would win the honor, and financial benefits, of becoming county seat. The main contenders were Grant, Madrid, and Lisbon. After three ballots and hundreds more votes than possible, the county seat issue was finally resolved in October, 1888 in favor of Grant by the District Court.

Between the years of the county's establishment in 1890, development went well in Perkins County. The Development and Growth Period, 1890-1920, however, was marked by the economic depression of the 1890's and by the drought which had begun by 1892 in the area. In Perkins County, as elsewhere in the state, a major decline in population and business occurred, further exacerbating the tough economic conditions. While conditions improved by the turn of the century, Perkins County residents still faced the forces of nature with a grasshopper infestation in 1904, and prairie fires in 1910.

In 1895, schooling was available through the ninth grade in Grant and it was not until 1912 that schooling through the twelfth grade was available. In 1918 a new Perkins County High School was built. During this period schools were also built in Elsie (1890), Madrid, Venango, and at other rural points throughout the county.

The World War I period saw an increase in land value and a boom in agriculture due, in part, to the war-time demand for agricultural products. Following the war, prices again leveled out and farmers began to adjust their operations to new methods of farming and conservation. The Great Depression Period, 1929-1941, was marked by severe drought, accompanied by dust storms in Perkins County, and harsh economic conditions. Like the 1980's, Perkins experienced a decline in population and business during these years.

World War II and the Post-War Period have seen a stabilization of conditions in Perkins county. Roads have been improved with highways running both east/west and north/south through the county. Although Grant had some electrical lighting since 1910, it was not until the 1940's that the county became electrified under the Rural Electrification program of the Federal Government. Improved farm implements and conservation methods have increased farm productivity but also reduced the number of farmers in a given area. By 1960 the average farm or ranch in the county was 850 acres.

Perkins County Towns and Villages

Grant, the county seat of Perkins, was established in 1886 and its first store opened in 1886 with a newspaper beginning publication the same year. The arrival of the first Chicago, Burlington and Quincy train, on July 4th, 1887, was a cause of major celebration and resulted in the first major influx of settlers to the new town. By the fall of 1887, there were 3 banks and many new businesses. In 1888, Grant became the county seat of Perkins County, and the town was incorporated. In 1888 the First Congregational Church of Grant built its first building.

During the Development and Growth Period, 1890-1921, Grant experienced both growth and decline, according to the conditions of the times. Although economic conditions were difficult in the 1890's due to the drought, some development continued. An I.O.O.F. building was built in 1892 and a hotel begun. A furniture and undertaking business was also established. In 1901 the courthouse was moved into the old First National Bank building. In 1905 the first telephone line reached Grant and in 1910, the Grant Telephone Company wired the town for service. In 1912 the grant Methodist Church was built. By 1914 the Perkins County High School was established.

The period of Spurious Growth, 1920-1929, was also one of accomplishment in Grant. In the 1920's, the Zion Lutheran Church, the Congregational Church, and the Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church all built new edifices and the Methodist Church built a parsonage. In 1920 a new high school was built. Various businesses also developed during this period. In 1927 the present courthouse was completed; a three story stone building. In 1929 the period of the Great Depression began, which would last until 1941. During this period, economic conditions left it very difficult for growth to take place. Under President Franklin Roosevelt's administration, an extensive program of public works was implemented throughout the nation. One of the "New Deal" agencies, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) aided in the remodelling of Grant's high school. WPA workers also developed the city park with rubble walls, benches, landscaping and a bandshell.

The World War II and Post-War periods in Grant's history have been ones of stabilization and progress. The Zion Lutheran Church built a new edifice in 1952 and the Methodist Church constructed a new building in 1955. The Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church updated its facilities with a new rectory in 1947, and a new church in 1961. In 1956, the Foursquare Church built its present home. In 1948 the Grant Library was begun. Between 1951 and 1959, a small airport was built with lighting for night landings. In 1961, a new community swimming pool was built in the city park.

In 1960, Grant had a population of 1,166 and had a small but thriving business community which included three dry goods stores, three grocery stores, two radio and T.V. shops, five service stations, various garage and machine shops, a bank, pool halls, hardware stores, a bowling alley, drug stores, cafe, and general merchandise. Professional services included lawyer, insurance and real estate businesses. Presently, the community also had five churches, a grade and high school, a golf course and baseball diamond.

The town of Madrid was first platted in May, 1887. In 1890 Madrid's population was 178 but the drought and economic depression of the 1890's left the community with only 35 residents by the turn of the century. As early as 1888, school was being held in the Madrid area. In the town's early days there were two churches, several large homes belonging to ranchers, a newspaper, general businesses and a hotel.

Following the depression of the 1890's, the period of Growth and Development, 1890-1920, resumed. From 1911 to 1919, a newspaper was published in Madrid and a pool hall was established. The period of Spurious Growth, 1920-1929, was ushered in with the 1920-21 construction of the Madrid High School which offer kindergarten through twelfth grades. In 1922, telephone service was brought to Madrid. A general store, a lumber store and various other businesses were also established during the 1920's.

The Great Depression of 1929-1941, was especially hard on communities such as Madrid. Many businesses failed and residents began to journey to Grant to supply some of their needs. The World War II and the Post-War periods brought more secure times to Madrid. The St. Paul's Lutheran Church was established in 1941 and the congregation rented church space. In 1942 the Security State Bank was established. By the 1960's, Madrid had a kindergarten through grade twelve consolidated school, four churches, a post office, a grain elevator, a volunteer fire department, a cafe, a beauty parlor, and a liquor store.

The first settlement in Venango was in 1885 and the small community had a small boom in 1887 upon the arrival of the railroad. In 1904, Venango was the largest town in Perkins County with a population of 183, compared with Grant's 162 residents. As with Madrid, Venango lost business to Grant and by 1962 was a small community with some businesses remaining. These included an implement store, a grain elevator, a beauty parlor, a general

merchandise store, an insurance agency, a co-op credit union, two churches and a consolidated high school.

Both Elsie and Grinton still exist as small rural communities, although each community was at one time larger. Elsie was platted in 1887 and became a small thriving community incorporated in 1915. Elsie Opera House opened in 1897 and seated 350 persons, claiming to be the largest opera house west of Holdrege. In 1960, Elsie had a population of 198 with a small business community. Grinton was founded around 1915 when local residents convinced the railroad to establish a siding and the village was platted a year later. At one time the village contained a grain elevator, two filling stations, a garage, a blacksmith shop, a butcher shop, two implement stores, a barber shop, a restaurant, a drug store, a variety shop, a pool and dance hall, newspaper, and post office. By 1960, however, Grinton had a population of 35 and still had two grain elevators, a grade school, church organizations, a post office, and filling station.

Ethnic and Population Trends

The first population statistics available for Perkins County are from the 1890 census during the Settlement and Expansion period with 4,364 residents being reported; 501 of the residents were listed as foreign-born with the majority from Germany (154), Sweden (89), the British Isles (152), Canada (53) and Bohemia (22). By 1900, the population of the county had dropped to 1,702 due to the economic and drought conditions and the census reported 206 foreign-born. Again the majority of immigrants were from Germany (76), the British Isles (59), Sweden (30), and Canada (10).

By 1910, the population had increased to 2,570 residents with 203 residents of foreign birth. The majority of the 1910 foreign-born population came from Germany (106), the

British Isles (30), and Sweden (30). In 1920, Perkins County had a total population of 3,967 with 208 foreign-born. Again the majority came from Germany (88), Sweden (31), the British Isles (16), and Canada (15). Perkins County's peak population occurred in 1930 with a 5,834 residents listed on the census of which 239 were of foreign birth. Although the majority still came from Germany (105), there were also significant numbers of Russian (29), and Bohemian (18) immigrants in the county. From 1940 on, the foreign-born population decreased as did the county's total population. The 1980 census figures listed Perkins County population at 3,637.

Agriculture and Ranching

Perkins County relies on both ranching and dairy production as its major forms of agricultural enterprise. The ranches in this county tend to be on a smaller scale than the vast ranches of the sandhills. Irrigation has been a concern from the late 1800's on and center pivot irrigation as well as canals and reservoirs have allowed farming as well as ranching to develop. The smaller size of the family ranch or farm in Perkins county is indicated in its higher population when compared to counties to the north.

Final Comments

Perkins county, for both topographical and transportation reasons, was divided from Keith County in 1887. This division allowed the region to develop according to the parameters of its environment. With smaller family ranches and farms and a larger overall population than counties in the sandhills region to the north, Perkins County has developed into a county with a broad-based rural economy.

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GENERAL SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Introduction

The primary objective of the Perkins County Historic Buildings Survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant within the county. In addition to this, several other objectives were identified in the Research Design which utilize the data collected by the survey and validate the need for its performance. First among these additional objectives was the contribution of information to the contextual setting of Nebraska's historic architecture. The performance of the Perkins County Historic Buildings Survey has generated information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background with which future survey information can be evaluated.

Secondly, it was the objective of the Perkins County Historic Buildings Survey to identify those properties within the county which are eligible or potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Additional objectives of the survey included: the identification of specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture; the identification of specific property types; the identification of construction methods which may relate to or are unique to those existing in the NEHBS database, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement, building technologies and architectural image.

In addition to these conceptual objectives, the Perkins County Historic Buildings Survey was intended to fulfill several numerical objectives as stated in the Research Design. These quantitative objectives consisted of:

- A. The recording of an estimated 300 properties in Perkins County at the completion of the survey.
- B. The coverage of approximately 374,400 acres (585 square miles) in Perkins County. In

addition, each street of the five extant Perkins County communities will be surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods.

- C. Identification of at least 30 properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
- D. Identification of at least one possible Historic District or Multiple Property nomination eligible for National Register listing.
- E. Evaluating by the following hierarchy those properties which are eligible (E) or potentially eligible (P) for listing in the National Register, and those properties which contribute (C) to the database of extant material resources in the county.

A post-survey evaluation of these goals reveals that the Perkins County Historic Buildings Survey has successfully satisfied its preliminary objectives. The satisfaction of these goals can be expressed in two quantifiable terms: numerical and geographic. Each street of the five Perkins County communities and nearly every rural road was surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods. The numbers produced by the survey are indicative of the comprehensive nature with which the survey was performed. A total of 491 contributing buildings, structures, objects and sites were documented on 172 individual properties. The survey canvassed approximately 284,080 acres (443.9 square miles) and identified 34 historic properties considered eligible or potentially eligible for National Register listing.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Perkins County has produced a diverse collection of historic material resources. This diversity of these resources is expressed in the broad range of Historic Contexts and Associated Property Types represented in the database of the surveyed properties. The list of Historic Contexts recorded by the reconnaissance level

survey includes the following themes as defined by the NESHPO (Historic Contexts in Nebraska--Topical Listing, 1989).

Historic Context	# of Properties
02.00. Religion: Religious/Ceremonial	2
02.01.01. Religion: Roman Catholic Church in Nebraska	1
02.03.02. Religion: Missouri Synod Lutheran Church in Nebraska	1
02.05.01. Religion: Congregational Churches in Nebraska	1
04.03. Government: County Government	1
05. Association:	1
06.01. Education: Schooling	1
06.01.01 Education: Rural Education	4
07.06. Diversion: Leisure and Recreation	1
08.07. High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production	71
12.02.07. Commerce: Retail Commerce in the High Plains Region	4
12.05.03. Commerce: Cooperative Movement	1
13.02. Transportation: Roads	3
15.01. Services: Public Utilities	3
15.05. Services: Financial	1
16.05. Settlement: Dwelling in Dispersed and Clustered Settlement	76

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A Topical Discussion and Preliminary Inventory of Perkins County Historic Properties

The following discussion consists of a topical summary and Preliminary Inventory of the historic properties documented during the Perkins County Historic Buildings Survey. This discussion is arranged according to the Topical Listing of Historic Contexts developed by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NESHPO, 1989). It includes summaries only of those historic contexts associated with properties judged eligible or potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Included at the end of each context summary is a photographic inventory of properties which appear eligible or potentially eligible for National Register. The properties judged eligible generally precede those considered potentially eligible. The properties labeled "potentially eligible" are included in the inventory for purposes of defining those buildings that may lack the significance or integrity for NRHP listing but which help define the character of the historic built environment of Perkins County. In addition, those properties already listed on the NRHP are included in the inventory according to their respective context.

Historic Context: Religion

The contextual topic of Religion encompasses any cultural manifestation relative to the faithful devotion of an acknowledged deity. This includes any social entity relating to sacred organizations and rituals or considered a sacred place. In terms of historic buildings and structures, this includes churches, parsonage-rectories, cemeteries, fellowship halls, and schools.

The reconnaissance survey of Perkins County recorded a total of five (5) properties associated with the context of religion. Of the five properties, two (PR00-019, PR02-007)

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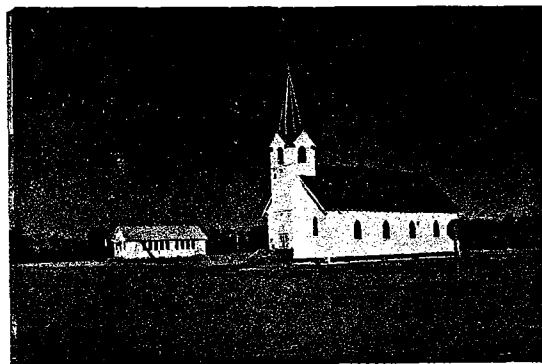
are included in the Preliminary Inventory as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The following table outlines the basic data regarding the five surveyed properties.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE	
				BLDGS.	SITES	STRU.	OBJ.		
=====									
PR05-016	C1910	CHURCH	02	1	0	0	1	02.1.4	C
PR02-007	C1895	RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD CHURCH	02.01.01	1	0	0	0	02.1.4	E
PR00-019	1928	TRINITY LUTH. CHURCH & SCHOOL	02.03.02	2	1	0	2	02.1.4:1	E
PR04-021	1926	CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH	02.05.01	1	0	0	0	02.1.4	C
PR02-012		FORMER CHURCH	02.99	1	0	0	1	02.1.4	C

While a significantly larger number of religious properties exist within Perkins County, only the five listed above met the criteria necessary for reconnaissance level survey (see NESHPO File: Research Design). Due to the preliminary nature of reconnaissance level survey, the historic association of the five properties with their current denominations has not been verified. However, two of these properties may contain associations with historic contexts already developed by the NESHPO. The Trinity Lutheran Church and School (PR00-019) has been preliminarily associated with the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church in Nebraska (H.C.: 02.03.02). In addition the Congregational Church in Grant is potentially linked to the Congregational Churches in Nebraska Historic Context Report (H.C.: 02.05.01).

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NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-019 Rural
DATE: 1928
RESOURCE NAME: Trinity Lutheran Church & School
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion (02.03.02), (06)
PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.1.4:1), (06)
DOE: Eligible
 Frame church and frame school chosen to the preliminary inventory for associations with rural education in western Nebraska. PR00-019 retains a high degree of original integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR02-007 Elsie
DATE: C1895
RESOURCE NAME: Resurrection of Our Lord Church
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion (02.01.01)
PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.1.4)
DOE: Eligible
 Late 1800's frame church deemed eligible to the National Register as a local landmark and as a significant contributor to thematic study of Roman Catholic properties in Perkins County.



Historic Context: Government

The contextual topic of Government encompasses the art or science of established government as well as competition between interest groups for leadership of local, state, or national government. Associated historic buildings include post offices, courthouses, community halls, and fire stations. Typically, the recording of buildings fitting this context has been somewhat low due presumably to the fact that it only takes one or two of these buildings to satisfy the governing needs of small communities.

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The Historic Buildings Survey of Perkins County did not find any historic properties associated to this context which met the criteria of reconnaissance level survey. However, the Perkins County Courthouse (PR04-001) in Grant is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The courthouse, built in 1926, was listed in September 1989 as part of a statewide multiple property nomination of county courthouses in Nebraska. These properties are significant for their association to the historic context of County Government in Nebraska (H.C.: 04.03).

NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-001 Grant
DATE: C1920
RESOURCE NAME: Perkins County Courthouse
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Government (04.03)
PROPERTY TYPE: Courthouse (04.1.7)
DOE: National Register, 1990
One of a number of Nebraska courthouses listed to the National Register under a multiple property nomination. Important to the development of government in Perkins County.

**Historic Context: Diversion**

The context of diversion encompasses any activity which relaxes and amuses. Considerations include recreation and entertainment; sport and travel; participating and spectating. A broad range of properties fall under this context from cultural centers and theaters to nightclubs and houses of ill-repute.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Perkins County found only one (1) property relating to the context of Diversion which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey: the Grant City Park (PR04-023). This property is associated with the historic context of Leisure and Recreation (H.C.: 07.06) and has been judged eligible for listing on the National Register

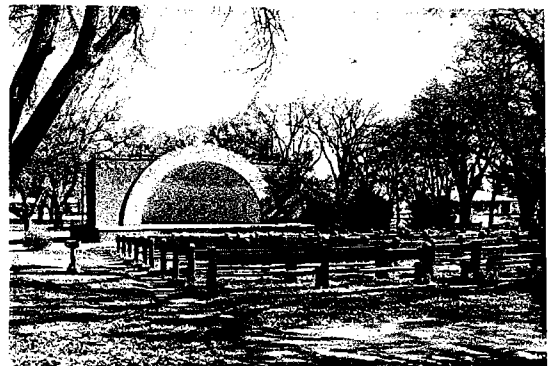
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of Historic Places.

Located on the north end of town, the Grant City Park contains a significant number of contributing buildings and objects. These buildings and objects were constructed in 1936 as part of a Works Progress Administration project. Most noteworthy among the buildings and objects are the stucco bandshell with concrete bench seating, axial tree plantings, and a series of rubble walls, fountains, planters and sitting areas.

Typically, the number of Diversion related properties documented in a reconnaissance survey are relatively low. This is attributed to the fact that, unlike houses or commercial buildings, a community of smaller population only required one or two entertainment related buildings. These were most commonly either theaters, opera houses or bars. Beyond that, it was not possible to financially support more than one of these activities in a community of 2,000 people or less. Compounding the infrequent survey of these buildings is the fact that often times they occupied the second floor of a two-story "Main Street" commercial building thus disguising their dual function to the uninformed surveyor.

NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-023 Grant
DATE: C1936
RESOURCE NAME: Grant City Park
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Diversion (07.06)
PROPERTY TYPE: Park (07.5.1)
DOE: Eligible
Considered for National Register listing as a representative WPA park featuring rubble structures, tree plantings, and bandshell. Important the historic development of Grant and to the context of Diversion in Perkins County.



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Historic Context: Agriculture

The historic contexts relating to the theme of agriculture will obviously be of great variety and importance to Nebraska. As a predominantly agrarian-based society, the economic well-being of the state is, in part, dependent upon the production of crops and livestock. Like other Nebraska counties, the settlement of Perkins County was correspondent to the agricultural success of the early permanent settlers. Consequently, the documentation of historic agricultural properties in Perkins County was an important and numerically significant task. Bearing this out is the fact that a total of seventy-one individual properties associated with the agriculture context were documented by the Historic Buildings Survey of Perkins County. These seventy-one properties accounted for 323 (71) contributing buildings and objects. Among the seventy-one total agriculture related properties surveyed in Perkins County, (3) three have been judged eligible for National Register listing with an additional six properties considered potentially eligible for such listing. These judgements are based on reconnaissance survey observations and must be confirmed by the NESHPO staff pending further research.

The farmsteads documented by the survey are collectively viewed as important material resources for the state of Nebraska. They portray the raw materials of a people and an industry responsible for the settlement of a vast portion of our state. The continued existence of some of the farmsteads documented in Perkins County is, however, doubtful. In fact, almost one-fourth (23%) of the seventy-one agriculture properties recorded by the survey consisted of abandoned farms or farm houses. The majority of these farms range in their era of construction from approximately 1890 to 1930. They contain the basic buildings necessary for crop and animal production such as livestock barns, loafing sheds, granaries, cribs, implement sheds, and hay barns.

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Particular emphasis was placed on the observance of farm properties relating to High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production (H.C.: 08.07) agriculture. This farming type was identified by the NESHPO as the predominant type of agriculture practised in Perkins County (see Historic Contexts in Nebraska--Topical Listing, 1989). In consideration of their importance to the material resources found in Perkins County, the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production Historic Context is discussed in greater detail in the following summary.

AGRICULTURE HISTORIC CONTEXTS IN PERKINS COUNTY

Introduction

Nebraska is a state of great diversity. Diversities exist among its people, its lands, its topography and, of more immediate concern to this discussion, its agriculture. The agricultural diversity of the state of Nebraska has been forged through one hundred years of adaptation and evolution in a land once labeled the "Great American Desert." During this time, the "desert" waste of Nebraska has been transformed into some of the most productive farm and ranch land in the United States.

The diversity of the agricultural industry in Nebraska is evident not only in geographic location but in historical development as well. The study of the various agricultural practises in Nebraska was first addressed in the 1930's by scientists from the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture. Their efforts focused upon defining a conceptual framework which would represent agriculture throughout the state. The result was the identification of type-of-farming, or system-of-farming areas which characterize regions by cropping and livestock systems. The publication of the type-of-farming

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definitions appeared in Research Bulletins issued by the College of Agriculture Experiment Station.

The term "type-of-farming" is used to describe a group of farms which are similar in size and enterprise combination. In this way, a group of farms having the same kind, quantity, and proportion of crops and livestock may be said to be following the same type of farming (Hedges and Elliott, p. 3). Likewise, the term type-of-farming area, refers to a region which contains a high degree of uniformity in agricultural production and in the physical and economic conditions under which production takes place.

The boundaries of the type areas do not conform to imposed government boundaries. In most cases, the transition from one region to another is gradual. The differences between the regions lie mainly in the dominant enterprises and their relative importance in the farming systems. In addition, variations within specific regions may differ as a result of terrain, soil types, and relative size of farms. In these cases, the definition of each type-of-farming area identifies the dominant farm system and the significant variations of that system within the region.

The boundaries delineated by the Agriculture College Research Bulletins (No. 244, Hedges and Elliott, May 1930; & No. 299, L.F. Garey, May 1936) were modified by the NESHPO to incorporate the regions into a framework suitable for preservation planning and historic context development. The framework developed by the NESHPO uses the characterization of agricultural activity in Nebraska as a tool in identifying, evaluating, and nominating significant historic resources to the National Register of Historic Places. Using the Research Bulletins as a basis, the NESHPO developed a ten region agricultural and geographic definition of the state. The ten areas redefined by the NESHPO and incorporated into the Historic Context framework are: 1. Southeastern General Farming (08.01) 2.

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Northeastern Intensive Livestock Production (8.02) 3. Lower Niobrara Livestock, Wild Hay and Cash Grain Production (08.03) 4. Loess Hills Livestock, General Farming, and Cash Grain Production (08.04) 5. Central Plains Cash Grain and Livestock Production (08.05) 6. Republican Valley General Farming, Cash Grain, and Livestock Production (08.06) 7. High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production (08.07) 8. Sand Hills Range Livestock Production (08.08) 9. Pine Ridge Range Livestock, Cash Grain and Potato Production (08.09) 10. Scotts Bluff Livestock, Cash Grain and Root Crop Production (08.10).

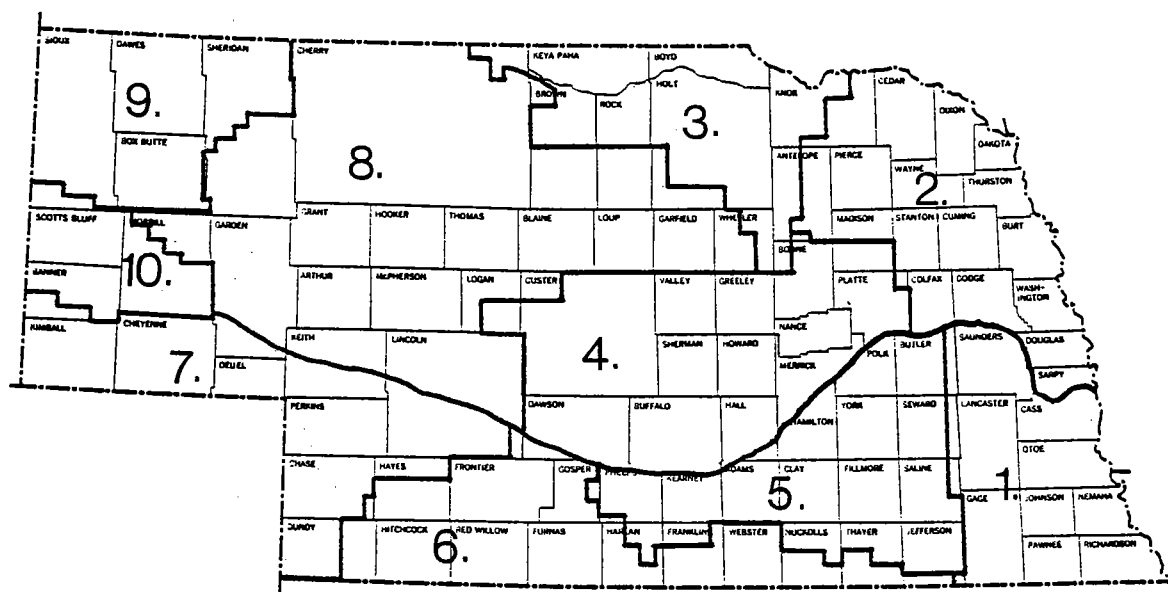


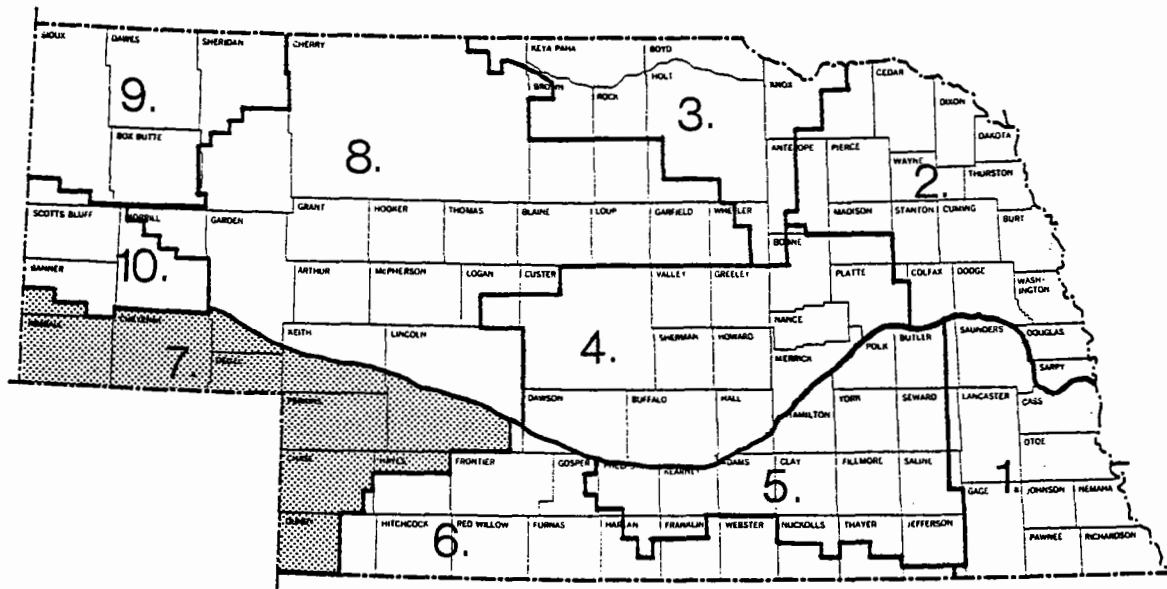
Fig. 1: Type-of-Farming and Geographic Regions for the state of Nebraska.

As evidenced by the Regions Map in Figure number 1, the Deuel County Historic Building survey area was associated with one primary type-of-farming region: the High Plains Cash

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Grain, Livestock and Potato Production area. A characterization of this type-of-farming and its associated historic buildings is presented in the following discussion.

High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production



The composition of the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production region in Deuel County is somewhat reflective of the diverse nature of agriculture throughout the state of Nebraska. It is a region characterized by a combination of three agricultural enterprises: the cultivation of cash grain crops, the production of cattle, and commercial potato growing.

The High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production region is located in the southwestern part of the state and is extremely irregular in form. It includes the southern portion of the panhandle and is bordered on the north by the North Platte River valley and stretches south in a range of 40 to 100 miles. The region encompasses Kimball,

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Cheyenne, Deuel and Perkins Counties and portions of Dundy, Chase, Lincoln, Hayes, Keith, and Garden Counties.

This region lies in the High Plains geographic zone of the state and is characterized by short grass prairie vegetation on flat-lying lands. It constitutes the major table land area of western Nebraska and is transected by Lodgepole Creek and the South Platte River. The western area of the region is comprised of shallow, sandy soils which are not well suited to cultivation. However, in other areas of this region, the soil is a medium-textured clay loam or silt and is well adapted to the production of cash grain crops--particularly wheat (Garey, 1936, p. 28).

Despite the presence of multiple farming systems, this region is historically known for its wheat production (Hedges and Elliott, p. 27). Corn, barley and oats have also been grown in the region but wheat occupied the dominant acreage during the period of historic importance (1900-1940). The suitability for wheat production in this region is attributable to the lower amounts of rainfall, higher altitudes, and silt loam soils.

The development of winter wheat had a significant impact on the agricultural economy of the state. The dominance of the wheat enterprise was first expressed in the early years of the twentieth-century (Olson, p. 251). Prior to this, wheat had found little favor among Nebraska farmers. Spring wheat was unsuitable for particular soils and climates within Nebraska and the Turkey Red winter wheat was viewed with disfavor by the milling industry which found it difficult to process. However, the development of new milling processes and the declining livestock and corn prices of the mid-1890's rekindled interest in wheat production. In addition to this, the introduction of the press drill enabled important pre-winter growth by planting the seed deeper, and spurred the increase in winter wheat cultivation (Olson, p. 251). By 1901, Nebraska was exceeded only by Kansas in winter wheat

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production (Olson, p. 252). In 1899 spring wheat acreage constituted 96.9% of total wheat acreage in Nebraska. However, by 1909 winter wheat accounted for 91.3% of the total wheat acreage (Olson, p. 252). No other plant had changed the agricultural complexion of the state in such a short time.

The importance of the Turkey Red winter wheat crop was particularly noteworthy in the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production area. With the exception of a two-year decline between 1916 and 1918, wheat occupied a minimum of 75% of the crop land from 1915 to 1934. In 1929, 60% of the total farm income in the region was from the sale of wheat (Garey, p. 28, 1936). The emergence of wheat in the early twentieth-century generally came at the expense of oat and corn production. The corn enterprise remained second in importance for the eastern portion of the region with barley the second grain crop of choice in the western portion (Hedges and Elliott, p. 27).

The production of beef cattle and hogs served as a supplement to the income generated by cash grain crops. In 1929, hog and cattle sales contributed a little over 30% of the total farm income (Garey, p. 28, 1936). Of this total, hogs contributed more than any other kind of livestock. However, the production of livestock was generally of less importance than in any other type-of-farming region in the state (Hedges and Elliott, p. 27).

The third and final farming enterprise important to this region is the commercial potato industry. The production of potatoes is confined mainly to the irrigated northern portion of the region. This sub-region includes a portion of the North Platte River valley and is adjacent to the root crop production area of Scotts Bluff and Morrill Counties.

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Property Types of the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production Region

The High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production farming system requires a variety of buildings and skills necessary for the successful management of cattle and the production of crops. Farmsteads which have retained their pre-mechanization buildings had a variety of structures important to the reconnaissance level survey. The buildings found on these farmsteads have been defined as component property types by the NESHPO and share broadly-defined physical characteristics with other farm buildings in the region.

The component property types of High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production fall into two general categories--commercially-related types and domestic types.

Commercial-related buildings are considered those structures which contribute to the commercial economy of the farm enterprise. In contrast, domestic buildings are comprised of those structures related to non-income producing activities and exist primarily for the subsistence of human occupants.



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The buildings associated with the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production area reflect the variable character of the region. The farmsteads of this region contained commercial and domestic building types necessary for crop cultivation and storage, cattle production, and human shelter. The major commercial property types associated with this farming system were barns (horse, hay and cattle), granaries, corn cribs, combination crib-granaries, implement sheds, root crop cellars and windbreaks. Commercial property types of secondary importance included fencing systems, loafing sheds, pump houses, tool sheds, and stock tank systems. The major domestic property types associated with this context include the ranch or farm house, wash house, cellar, summer kitchen, smokehouse, outhouse, chicken house, brooder house, vegetable garden, garage, cob house, cistern, orchard, and miscellaneous sheds.

The farmsteads of the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production region did not generally contain all of the domestic and commercial property types listed above. Instead, a significant number of these types were found in various combinations based on the particular emphasis of the respective farmstead. Among the possible combinations of property types evident in the region, the highest priority in terms of reconnaissance level documentation went to those properties exhibiting complete farmstead units. A complete farmstead unit was defined as a property comprised of a significant collection of both commercial and domestic component property types.

While the complete farmstead unit was considered the most significant resource associated with this context, a large number of other properties were surveyed. These other properties include farmsteads with only a portion of their commercial or domestic buildings extant as well as individually significant buildings on otherwise non-contributing properties. Examples which fall into this category include buildings

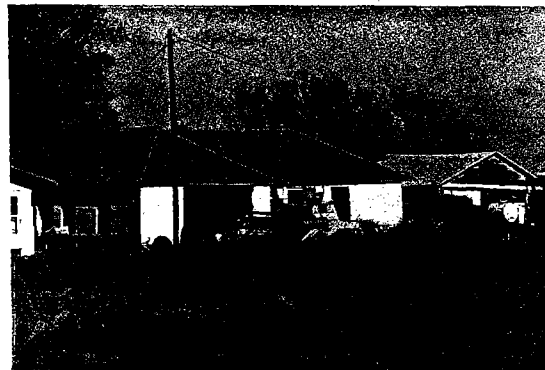
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which possess architectural distinction based on technical or artistic merits and those buildings associated with ethnic cultures. In addition, individual buildings noteworthy for their regional association with the predominant system-of-farming were also considered significant.

NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-023 Rural
DATE: C.1921
COMMON NAME: Farmstead
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farmstead (08.1)
DOE: Eligible
Large-scale farm with six frame contributing buildings. Represents farm operations during the prosperous years of the 1920's.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-053 Rural
DATE: C.1910
COMMON NAME: Former Sod House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Eligible
Despite conversion of this sod house into a garage, PR00-053 is still an important contributor to the study of sod construction in western Nebraska.



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NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-073 Rural
DATE: C.1905
COMMON NAME: Farmstead with Sod House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farmstead (08.1)
DOE: Eligible
 Kinkaid era property important to the early settlement of Perkins County and as a major contributor to the multiple property study of sod buildings in Nebraska.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-008 Rural
DATE: C.1946
COMMON NAME: Farmstead
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farmstead (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Landscaped yard and preserved house contribute to the importance of this farmstead. Significant as a representative agrarian property from the mid-1900's.

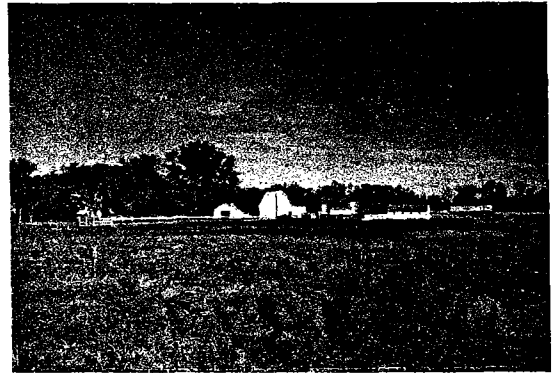


NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-021 Rural
DATE: C.1923
COMMON NAME: Farmstead
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farmstead (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Significant contributor to the context of High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production, as defined by the NESHPO (Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1989), from the prosperous years of the 1920's.



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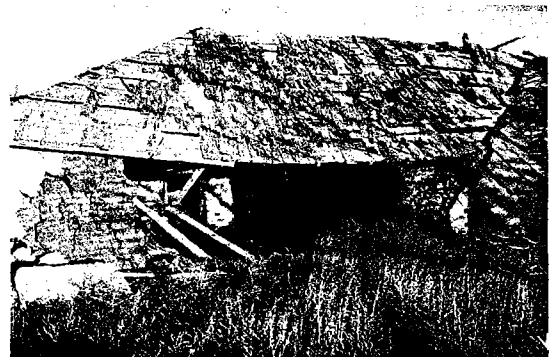
NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-040 Rural
DATE: C.1923
COMMON NAME: Farmstead
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farmstead (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Potentially eligible to the National Register as a representative large scale farm in Perkins County. Seven contributing buildings add to the integrity of this property.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-054 Rural
DATE: C.1908
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Large one-and one-half story cement block house with jerkinhead roof: Significant for the early use of cement block in domestic construction.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-065 Rural
DATE: C.1905
COMMON NAME: Sod House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Collapsed sod house significant as a contributor to the multiple property study of sod buildings and as a Kinkaid era property.



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NeHBS NUMBER: PR00-044 Rural
DATE: C.1908
COMMON NAME: Abandoned House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Cement block house with symmetrical gable
dormers important to the context of High Plains
Agriculture: possibly associated with Kinkaid
settlement.

**Historic Context: Commerce**

The context of Commerce is defined as the buying and selling of commodities, involving transportation from place to place. Considerations include wholesaling and retailing; gift exchange; trade and barter; monetary economy including finance, business organization, and mercantile business. Commerce encompasses a diverse range of businesses including general stores, hotels, speciality stores and department stores.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Perkins County found five (5) Commerce related properties which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey. Among the five properties, two were judged potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The five properties surveyed relate to the sub-contexts of Cooperative Movements (H.C.: 12.05.03) and Retail Commerce in the High Plains Region (H.C.:12.02.07). Pertinent information regarding the five surveyed properties linked to Commerce in Morrill County is outlined in the following table.

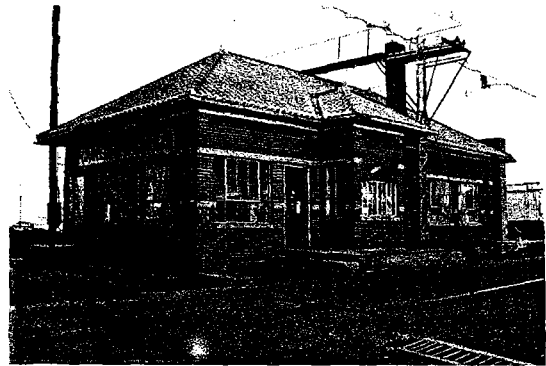
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NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING				PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDGS.	SITES	STRU.	OBJ.		
=====									
PR05-005	C1900	LUMBER YARD/HARDWARE	12.02.07	4	0	0	0	11.4.2.1	P
PR02-005	1903	CUTTLERS STORE	12.02.07	1	0	0	0	12.1.1	C
PR05-014	C1916	HOTEL	12.02.07	1	0	0	0	12.3.1	C
PR06-010	C1905	FORMER LUMBER YARD	12.02.07	4	0	0	1	11.4.2.1	P
PR04-048	C1925	GRAIN CO-OP OFFICE	12.05.03	1	0	0	0	10.2.1	C

Main street commercial buildings accounted for four of the five properties surveyed. These main street buildings can be categorized into two predominant types: the frame false-front and the masonry commercial building or block. The false-front types were generally found in smaller communities and consisted of one-story rectangular-shaped structures with gable roofs hidden behind an exaggerated facade. The false front helped to disguise the relatively low scale of the building by hiding the true size of the structure and thus conveying a greater sense of prominence. The primary era of construction in Perkins County for this type was from 1900 to 1915. The second type documented by the survey, the masonry commercial building or block, were generally found in the larger communities of the survey area. These buildings were typically constructed between 1915 and 1930, and consisted of one and two-story masonry structures with one or two-part compositional facades. These buildings were often built on single twenty-five foot commercial lots or in double to triple wide commercial lots of fifty to seventy-five foot widths.

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NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-048 Grant
DATE: C.1925
COMMON NAME: Grant Cooperative Scale Office
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.05.03)
PROPERTY TYPE: Cooperages (10.2.1)
DOE: Eligible
 One-story brick building adjacent to the railroad. Originally built as a office and scale house, but now used for other purposes. Significant for its property type under the context of Commerce.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR05-005 Madrid
DATE: C.1900
COMMON NAME: Lumber Yard/Hardware Store
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.02.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Lumber Yard (11.4.2.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Important to the development of Madrid during settlement. The property, including four contributing buildings, retains its historic integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR06-010 Venango
DATE: C1905
COMMON NAME: Former Lumber Yard
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.02.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Lumber Yard (11.4.2.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Despite roof damage to the storage barn, this former lumber yard still contributes to the historic development of Venango during the early twentieth-century.



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Historic Context: Transportation

The context of transportation involves the carrying, moving or conveying of material and people from one place to another. Considerations include transportation by land, water, and air; trails, roads, highways, interstates, railway; and related service accommodations such as railroad stations and depots, motels, gas stations, and airplane terminals.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Perkins County found three (3) properties relating the context of Transportation which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey. Among the three transportation related properties in the Perkins County database, two have been judged eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Each of the three surveyed properties consist of support related service facilities for Road Transportation (H.C.: 13.02). Because the primary emphasis of the support service facilities is the generation of income, these properties can be cross-referenced to the context of commerce. Pertinent information regarding the surveyed properties is outlined in the following table.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING				PROPERTY	DOE
				BLDGS.	SITES	STRU.	OBJ.	TYPE	
=====									
PR04-046	C1930	CONOCO STATION	13.02	1	0	0	0	13.3.3.3	E
PR06-008	C1919	VENANGO GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	0	13.3.3.4	C
PR06-009	C1928	FILLING STATION	13.02	1	0	0	0	13.3.3.3	E

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-046 Grant
DATE: C.1930
COMMON NAME: Conoco Gas Station
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation (13.02)
PROPERTY TYPE: Gas Station (13.3.3.3)
DOE: Eligible

Chosen to the inventory as a well preserved gas station under the context of Transportation .. Consists of a brick building with porte cochere, tile roof and leaded/bevelled windows.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR06-009 Venango
DATE: C.1928
COMMON NAME: Filling Station
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation (13.02)
PROPERTY TYPE: Gas Station (13.3.3.3)
DOE: Eligible

Neo-Classical filling station chosen eligible to the National Register for associations with the context of Transportation. Originally built as a Standard Oil station.



Historic Context: Services

The historic context of Services refers to the community support services provided or controlled by government and commonly viewed as necessities. This includes public services such as the supply of gas, electricity, and water; the disposal of waste; and the protective services of fire fighting and disaster relief. Private professional services are also considered under this context and include architecture, banking, medical and insurance industries.

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

The survey of Perkins County found four (4) properties worthy of recordation based on reconnaissance survey criteria. Among the four properties, one has been judged eligible for National Register listing. The four properties recorded represent two primary sub-contexts within the Services topic: Public Utilities (H.C.: 15.01.), and The Age of Main Street Banking: The Dual System in Nebraska (1890-1920), (H.C.: 15.05.03.). Pertinent information regarding the surveyed properties is outlined in the following table.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING BLDGS. SITES	STRU. OBJ.	PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
PR02-009	C1913	WATER TOWER	15.01	0 0	1 0	15.5.2	C
PR05-018	C1928	WATER TOWER	15.01	0 0	1 0	15.5.2	C
PR06-015	C1925	WATER TOWER	15.01	0 0	1 0	15.5.2	C
PR04-047	C1890	BANK/COMMERCIAL BUILDING	15.05, 12	1 0	0 0	15.1.1, 12.1	E

NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-047 Grant

DATE: C.1890

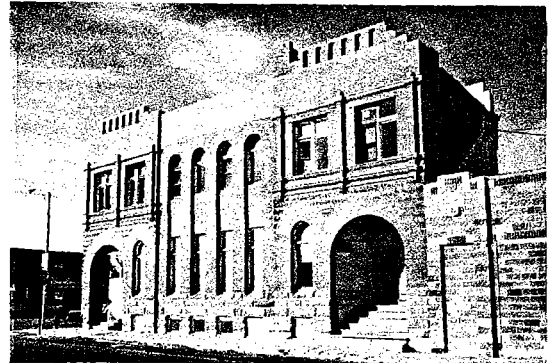
COMMON NAME: Bank/Commercial Building

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service (15.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Bank (15.1.1),

DOE: Eligible

Two-story stone and brick bank eligible to the National Register based on its role in the establishment of financial services during early twentieth-century settlement in Grant. Built by R. V. Lewis.



Historic Context: Settlement

Settlement is the broad contextual title encompassing the division, acquisition, occupation, and ownership of land. This context contains settlement patterns generated

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

through political, religious or commercial activities to facilitate the establishment of cultural systems. Specific considerations include acquisition methods and use patterns of land as well as the spatial delineation and organization of land including hamlets, villages, towns, cities and the furthest delineation--the individual dwelling.

This contextual topic contained the greatest number of documented historic properties within Perkins County. Of the 174 total properties recorded, 76 or 44% fall within the context of Settlement. The majority of these properties were recognized simply as contributors to the historic built environment of Perkins County. However, 8 properties were judged eligible and 8 potentially eligible for National Register listing.

The retention of historic integrity that these 76 properties displayed was quite varied. In some instances, the integrity had been severely compromised through later additions or alterations, while in other cases buildings were recorded which were extremely similar to their original condition.

The individual house-whether in an urban or a rural setting-is the most common feature of the built environment; it fulfills the basic human need for shelter. Houses represent the largest proportion of all buildings documented during reconnaissance level surveys. The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NEHBS) for Perkins County was no exception: 144 houses were documented, or 29% percent of all the county's contributing buildings. Although houses are such a common part of our surroundings, describing them can be complex; variations result from style, age, building material, and even the ethnic heritage of owners or builders.

Architectural histories and guide books often provide descriptions of houses during various periods of popularity in terms of style such as Italianate, Queen Anne, or

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

Romanesque. Good examples of these houses are usually referred to as "high style". Houses that cannot be identified as a particular style and that are built from local materials such as log, stone, and sod are generally referred to as "folk" houses. Usually dating from the settlement era of a particular locality, folk houses were often built by immigrants who patterned them after buildings in their homeland. Age, distinctive building material, or unusual form makes these houses easy to identify during building surveys. Further research and comparison however, is necessary to determine how they might reflect "old world" buildings adapted to the Nebraska landscape.

During county-wide historic buildings surveys it becomes apparent that most houses are not associated with a specific architectural style, and that in many places, few survive from the settlement period. The goal of the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey, however, is to document all types of houses--from large Queen Annes with corner towers and stained glass windows, to small two room, frame houses with simple porches.

The remaining houses that are not high style or folk, are generally referred to as "vernacular" or common. All houses, whether they are high style, folk, or vernacular, can be studied for their form, floor plans, and distribution. In the case of folk and vernacular, documenting the form becomes especially important since there may not be other ways to describe these houses. Information about the basic form and features such as roof shape, and number of stories can reveal patterns or house types within a region, the work of a local builder or an ethnic group.

To document all houses, the Nebraska Historic Preservation Office uses a system derived in part from several vernacular house studies that was further developed for use during historic buildings surveys. Under this method, house types are categorized as "supratypes" to eliminate subjective descriptions based on "style." Instead, descriptions

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

the following: Supratypes are categorizations based on the external massing of house, similar to that first developed by Kniffen (1936) under the ruberick of "type." The term "supratype" is used to distinguish it from other methods of type analysis which are based on external form and internal space, such as that developed by Glassie (1975).

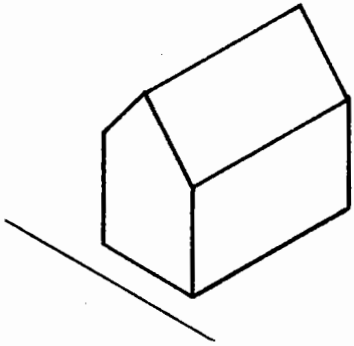
Supratypes are defined by combinations of five massing elements derived from the core structure of the house--the predominant mass which cannot be further subdivided--exclusive of wings and porches. The five mass elements are shape, relative size, height, roof type, and orientation on the site (D. Murphy, 1989).

House Type Summary

The use of the Core Supratype analysis in the reconnaissance-level survey proved beneficial in that it created an objective process of interpretation for the recording of historic residences. The residential properties documented in the Perkins County survey consist of 41 different types representing 144 houses. Numerical designation has been assigned to each of these 41 types (e.g., S.1, S.2, S.3, etc.). A master list of the 41 individual types is included in the NESHPO Survey Report file.

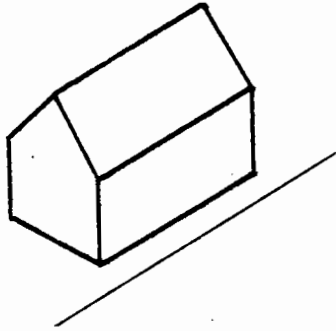
While 41 different types may seem like a tremendous variation for 144 total resources, a smaller group actually represents the majority of the documented houses. In fact, three types account for 40.3% of all recorded properties in Perkins County. Furthermore, 83% of all Perkins County houses surveyed fit into one of only four dominant families. These four families are discussed in the following one-page summaries.

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

**Family #1**

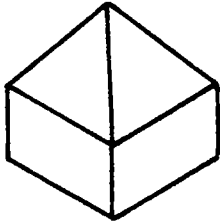
This family, composed of seven various types, represents 40.27% of all Perkins County house types. The common characteristics displayed by this group are a rectangular-shaped core covered by a gable roof with the narrow dimension of the core facing the street. Of the seven combinations comprising this family, S.20 appeared most frequently accounting for 24.31% of the total properties.

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

**Family #2**

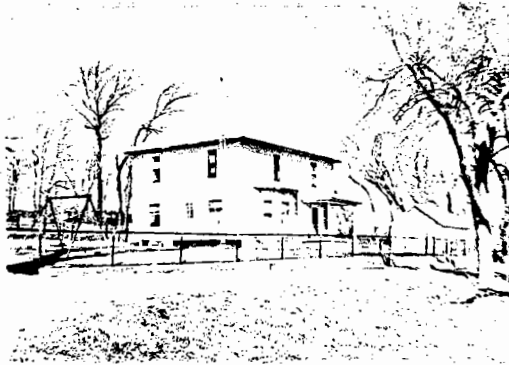
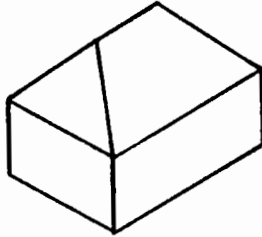
This family, composed of eleven various types, represents 25.66% of all Perkins County house types. Identical to the form of Family #1, the distinguishing difference is in the latitudinal orientation (verses the longitudinal orientation of the former family). Of the eleven different combinations comprising this family, two types are numerically significant: S.19 (9.72%) and S.11 (7.64%).

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

**Family #3**

This family, composed of six various types, represents 9.7% of all Perkins County house types. The common characteristics displayed by this group are a square-shaped core covered by a hip roof with a non-applicable orientation. Of the six combinations comprising this family, S.36 (6.25%) appeared most frequently.

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

**Family #4**

This family, composed of three various types, represents 6.94% of all Perkins County house types. The common characteristics displayed by this group are a rectangular-shaped core covered by a hip roof with the narrow dimension of the core facing the street (longitudinal). Of the three combinations comprising this family, S.24 (5.56%) appeared most frequently.

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NeHBS NUMBER: PR02-008 Elsie
DATE: C.1950
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Eligible
 Three bedroom gray Lustron. Important in the multiple property study of prefabricated metal houses in Nebraska.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-027 Grant
DATE: C.1901
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Eligible
 Important to the early development of Grant and for possible associations with locally significant persons. Now functions as the Perkins County Museum.

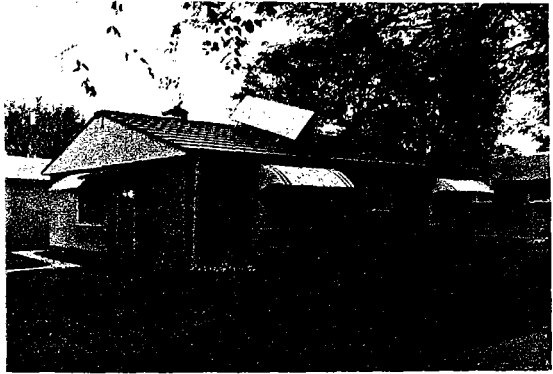


NeHBS NUMBER: PR05-003 Madrid
DATE: C.1895
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Eligible
 Eligible to the National Register as a locally significant example of Queen Anne Style domestic architecture and for possible associations with persons of local importance.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NeHBS NUMBER: PR06-003 Venango
 DATE: C.1948
 COMMON NAME: House
 HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
 PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
 DOE: Eligible
 Three bedroom tan Lustron house. One of two Lustrons located in the small community of Venango. Retains a high degree of original integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: PRO6-005 Venango
 DATE: C.1948
 COMMON NAME: House
 HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
 PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
 DOE: Eligible
 Two bedroom Lustron house important in the study of post-war housing. Altered by a frame addition on the west facade. Exterior has been painted mustard yellow.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR06-001 Venango
 DATE: C.1908
 COMMON NAME: House
 HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
 PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
 DOE: Eligible
 One-story house considered significant for the early use of cement block in domestic architecture. Carriage garage is also cement block.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-014 Grant
DATE: C.1920
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Example of a California Bungalow house type.
Built during the Spurious Growth Temporal
Period (1920-1929) as defined by the NESHPO
(Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1989).



NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-019 Grant
DATE: C.1928
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Frame and brick bungalow significant for its
association with the context of Settlement
during Grant's prosperous years.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-028 Grant
DATE: C.1898
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Potentially significant as a well preserved
example of an early twentieth-century gable
front vernacular house.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-029 Grant
DATE: C.1895
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Contributor to the context of Settlement during the Development and Growth Temporal Period (1890-1920) as defined by the NESHPO (Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1989).



NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-034 Grant
DATE: C.1929
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Selected for the preliminary inventory as a representative indicative of the Bungalow, the dominant house type from 1905-1929.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-030 Grant
DATE: C.1924
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 One-story frame and brick bungalow built during Grant's prosperous years. Represents a modest bungalow common to this small community.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NeHBS NUMBER: PR04-033 Grant
DATE: C.1935
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Well preserved frame bungalow with rare upper-story shed dormer balcony. Contributes to the context of Settlement in Grant.



NeHBS NUMBER: PR05-009 Madrid
DATE: C.1907
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Two-story square chosen to the preliminary inventory for possible associations with persons of local significance.



Important Themes of the Settlement Historic Context

A post-survey evaluation of the settlement properties recorded by the Perkins County survey has identified certain resource groups which may be of potential interest to the NESHPO. The historic context of Settlement contains three multiple property topics worthy of further discussion: Sod Houses of the Western Sandhills and High Plains region, Bungalow style houses, and Lustron metal houses. A discussion on each of these topics is presented in the following separate discussions. For examples of the properties associated with these topics, please refer to the Settlement Inventory found on pages 52 through 56.

Sod Houses of the Western Sandhills and High Plains Study Region



Fig. 2: Abandoned sod house in rural Perkins County (PR00-065).

The fundamental parameter of the Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey was the recordation of buildings, structures, sites, and objects fifty years old or older which retained their historic integrity. By doing this, the NESHPO generates data regarding historic resources which is used to identify, evaluate, and register properties to the National Register of Historic Places. Based on its reconnaissance nature, the properties recorded by the survey display various levels of significance. While the majority of the buildings recorded met the integrity criteria required for reconnaissance survey, they generally did not carry a substantial amount of historic significance. However, in contrast to this were those buildings which not only retained historic integrity, but possess qualities which enhance their significance as historic material resources.

One such group of resources found during the first phase of the Western Sandhills and

High Plains survey that exhibit a greater level of significance are those buildings constructed of sod "bricks". Thirty-two properties with sod buildings were recorded during the survey of Morrill, Deuel, Perkins, and Keith Counties. These four counties represent the first phase of the eight county Western Sandhills and High Plains survey project. The majority of these thirty-two properties were located in Morrill County (28), with only three found in Perkins County, and one in Keith County (see Sod House Inventory, p. 61). In addition to the importance of their structural systems, these buildings were also considered significant for their potential association with Homestead or Kinkaid Act settlement.

The sod houses recorded in the region consist of massive sod "brick" walls measuring up to twenty-four inches in thickness. There were two kinds of ground within the region suitable for use. The short alkali grass sod was most suitable but was only found in lower levels. Black root sod was also sufficient and was found in greater abundance in the higher elevations. Bunch grass sod was not suitable for construction due to the lack of a strong root system.



Fig. 3: Loading sod for building a sod house near Dismal River in Thomas County.
(Photo: Nebraska State Historical Society).

The sod used for the houses was cut with a sod plow which would flip over one strip of sod approximately eighteen to twenty-four inches wide. These strips were then cut to desired length and stacked in alternating fashion with the grass-side down. The sod "bricks" had to be of similar thickness to keep the walls plumb. The walls were carefully laid to accommodate openings and were trimmed with a sharp spade for smoothness.

In addition to finding adequate sources of sod, settlers were also challenged by the creation of a quality plaster. The most effective method employed in the region involved locating a low swampy spot and digging two to three feet down to obtain a sticky bluish-colored gumbo. This was then mixed with water and sand to make a serviceable plaster. The walls of the sod houses were generally covered on the exterior with the gumbo-based plaster. However, examples of sod houses with no evidence of exterior plaster were also recorded.

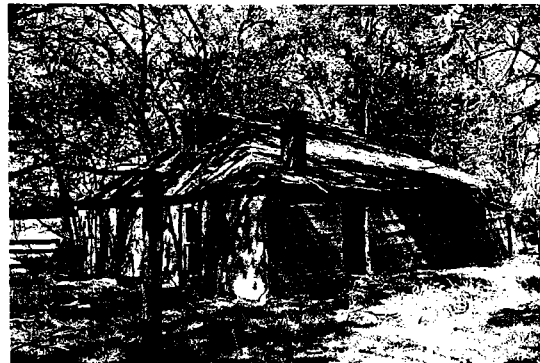


Fig. 4: Two examples of sod houses in Morrill County with and without exterior plaster.

(L:MO00-065, R: MO00-105).

The sod houses found in the region have a distinctly low and bulky appearance and are often identifiable by their lack of plumb walls and corners. The exterior wall height of the soddies was considerably shorter than that of frame structures and little, if any, fenestration was included in the north walls of the buildings. The house typically

contained rectangular two-room plans with a narrow side dimension of thirty feet or less. However, in some cases, a large one-story square-shaped plan in a basic four-square configuration was also recorded. The general era of construction for the Homestead-Kinkaid era sod houses ranged from approximately 1890 to as late as 1916. However, exceptions to this are found in the sub-group of houses built as novelties or as a result of Depression-era poverty.

The physical condition of the sod houses recorded by the survey was quite varied. In some instances, the only physical remains of a dwelling are sod wall ruins while in others, the sod structure is occupied and well-maintained.



Fig. 5: Sod wall ruins and occupied sod structure, Morrill County
(L: MO00-118, R: MO00-056).

Based on their importance as significant material resources within the Western Sandhills and High Plains region, the thirty-two sod houses recorded in Phase One of the survey are recommended for multiple property nomination to the National Register, (see p. 70). An inventory of the properties containing sod houses, as recorded by the survey, is included on the following page.

Sod House Inventory for the Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

MORRILL COUNTY	DATE	RESOURCE/Common Name
<hr/>		
M000-018	c.1940	Sod house
M000-024	c.1885	Withers sod house
M000-028	c.1895	Loomis sod house
M000-031	c.1900	Sod house
M000-035	c.1910	Potential sod house
M000-038	c.1885	Sod house
M000-056	c.1910	Sod house
M000-064	c.1908	Sod house
M000-065	1912	Carl Nichols sod house
M000-068	c.1910	Sod house
M000-069	c.1905	Sod house
M000-073	c.1910	Sod house
M000-084	c.1912	Sod house
M000-085	c.1908	Sod house
M000-094	c.1908	Sod house
M000-095	c.1903	Sod house
M000-099	c.1905	Sod house
M000-102	c.1888	Sod house
M000-105	c.1913	Sod house
M000-118	c.1900	Sod house ruins
M000-119	c.1888	Two sod dugouts
M000-134	1905	Sod house
M000-140	c.1908	Sod house
M000-143	c.1910	Greenwood Ranch sod house
M000-148	c.1905	Sod house
M000-165	c.1911	Sod house
M003-001	c.1914	Sod house
M003-054	c.1910	Sod house

PERKINS COUNTY

PR00-053	c.1910	Altered sod house
PR00-065	c.1905	Sod house ruins
PR00-073	c.1905	Sod house

KEITH COUNTY

KH00-065	c.1911	Sod house
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Bungalow Style Houses

As the twenty-first century approaches, an evaluation of advances made during the past century is in order. Advances in technology, transportation and the built environment occurred at alarming rates. Whereas the nineteenth-century reflected Romanticism, separation of the social classes, and inner city crowding, the twentieth-century may be credited with Modernism, the growth of the middle class, and suburbia. It was during this time that a new house type was to emerge and forecast a change in domestic architecture. Known as the "bungalow" it soon became the dominant house type from the early 1900's to the mid 1920's. In Nebraska, Bungalows constitute a large proportion of single family dwellings built during the early part of this century. It is no surprise to discover that the population boom which occurred in Western Nebraska during the 1910's and 1920's resulted in a domestic architecture dominated by the Bungalow.



PR05-012: Madrid, Perkins County



PR04-006: Grant, Perkins County

In 1880 the first use of the term bungalow in the United States was used to describe a summer retreat at Cape Cod. It wasn't until the California Bungalow appeared that the

term would shift from meaning resort house to suburban house. Although the majority of bungalows fall into the category of California Bungalows, this does not mean that they were confined specifically to the West Coast. The California Bungalow, the creation of pattern books and carpenters, made the greatest impact on the advancement of modern domestic architecture throughout the United States.

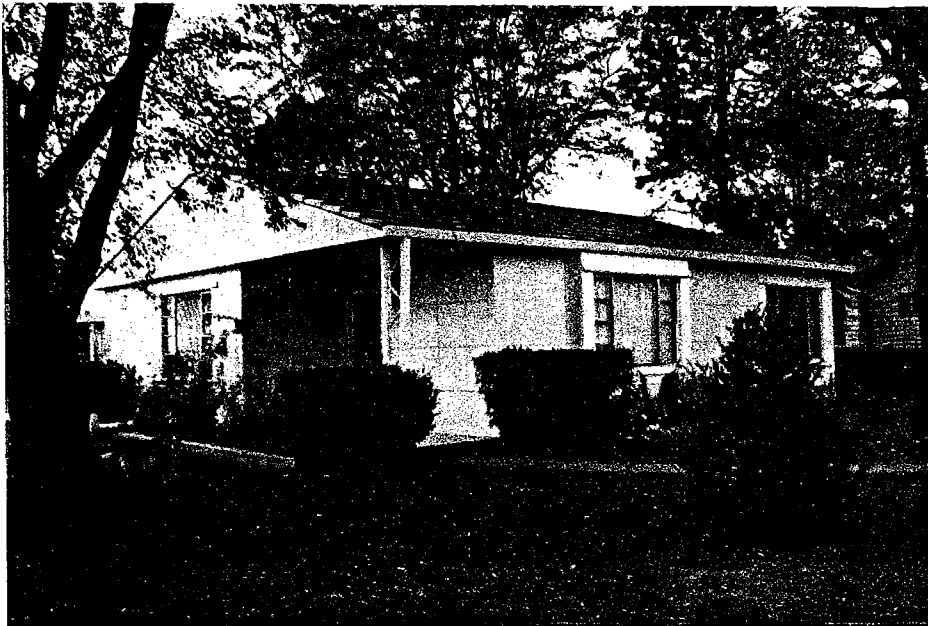
Many factors acted as the impetus for the California Bungalow's popularity. In the 1880's the Arts and Crafts Movement gained strength through an emphasis on simplicity, craftsmanship and harmony with nature; later reflected in the bungalow. Rather than separate building from site as the Victorian houses practiced, bungalow houses were to mesh with the surrounding environment, lessen the distinction between interior and exterior and be integral with the land rather than intrude upon. This was achieved through the use of natural building materials such as wood, rock or stone, and the separation of interior/exterior functions by pergolas, porches, in an open floor plan. Sleeping porches became synonymous with bungalows and further emphasized a back-to-nature, good health life-style. Most important was the design emphasis on horizontality. Prior to the bungalow, houses were usually two-stories with a moderately pitched roof. Bungalows took advantage of available building plots which allowed the structure to hug the ground by putting all functions on one story. Roofs became low-pitched in both gable or hip types. Applied ornamentation was pushed to the wayside to make way for a more honest "Form Follows Function" attitude. This philosophy coincided with modern architects of the period; Green and Green, Frank Lloyd Wright, and in furniture design, Gustav Stickley.

It was through the work of the California architects Green and Green that the bungalow as we know it found stylistic influence. The term bungalow refers primarily to the openness of its floor plan. A bungalow could be designed in a variety of styles such as Shingle, Mission, Swiss Chalet or Prairie. It was through the Craftsman Style, however,

that certain details: exposed raftertails, brackets, attached pergolas, water tables and pane windows became synonymous with most bungalows.

The impact of the bungalow on domestic architecture provides an invaluable resource to evolution of housing in North America and more specifically Nebraska. In the Western Sandhills and High Plains survey region, the large number of bungalow houses reflects the prosperity that region experienced during the 1920's. The Settlement inventory (p. 76-93) includes examples of bungalow style houses ranging from the most commonly built one-story with gable roof, to the airplane bungalow, to the broad-gabled bungalow sometimes referred to as "bungaloid".

Lustron Houses



PR06-005: Lustron House, Venango, Perkins County.

Reconnaissance building surveys are responsible for the documentation of all historic structures, fifty years and older which have retained historic integrity. There are always

exceptions to the rules; in the case of Lustron homes, it is one of maturity. Though Lustrons have not yet reached the fifty year criteria, their contributions to domestic architecture make them the exception. Nationally, less than 3,000 Lustron homes were erected during a two year period (1948-1950). Finding three of these metal house in Perkins County became the impetus for further research on these novelties and resulted in the following article.

Carl Strandlund's Lustron house is an example of being in the right place at the right time. The year was 1946 when Strandlund was in Washington D.C. soliciting the Government into granting more service station permits for the Standard Oil Company. The building of more stations meant selling more porcelain-enameled steel panels which Chicago Vitreous had been producing for 12 years under the direction of Strandlund as general manager and vice president.

During one of Strandlunds lunches with government officials the idea of an all metal house came about when an official commented, "...you could make houses out of this stuff. And in the housing crisis..." With the help of an initial loan of 15.2 million from the Reconstructive Finance Corporation the Lustron Company emerged. The former Curtiss-Wright plant, once used to taxi fighter planes, was converted to suit the needs of mass producing the metal houses. In the plant 2,200 people worked on a conveyor belt production line with the ultimate realization of one Lustron every 14 minutes; 100 a day. A 1949 Fortune article described the atmosphere in the plant:

...alive in one long rhythmic flow, with the special kind of beauty of a great American factory: the monstrous two-story-high presses stamping steel into exact shapes, the tall shiny wire baskets, floating gently, swaying like mobiles by Alexander Calder, carrying things around a couple of miles of production line; dozens of huge mixers rolling endlessly

overhead, sloshing colored porcelain mix; long steel beams through an electronic welder that works like a thinking machine, jiggling the frame forward, hitting it with welding nipples, burning the loose beams into solid roof trusses and wall frames; and the endless lines of huge Fruehauf trailer trucks, slowly sliding forward along the track toward the daylight, men loading and sealing parts until the truck reaches the door, loaded with all the components.

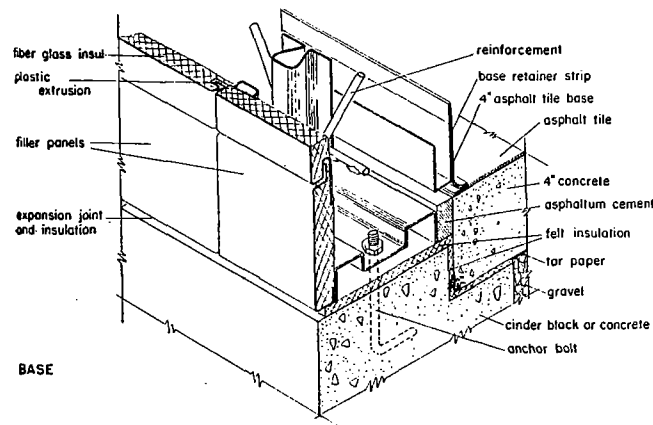


Fig. 6: Wall detail showing building components
(from Architectural Forum, June, 1947).

The similarities between the assembly line production of a metal house and an automobile were not coincidental. Strandlund recognized the potential for houses that could be turned out like automobiles. In fact, he believed that he could someday produce new houses loaded with gadgets that would make Lustron owners want to "trade in" old models just as they would with an automobile. Trade in models (or used Lustrons) would provide an alternative of good housing for the lower-income. Strandlund even envisioned a financing plan from manufacturer-to-dealer-to-homeowner based on that of the auto industry.

"What do the crowds that have longed demonstration lines mean to the building industry? What significance is there to the enthusiasm of the public for Lustron's new standard of living?" These questions began appearing in the corporation's magazine advertisements in 1947. Millions of people toured demonstration homes in New York, Washington, Detroit,

Minneapolis, Des Moines, and other communities. People were curious to see this new idea in better home living. The Lustron Corporation soon coined the phrase "A New Standard for Living".

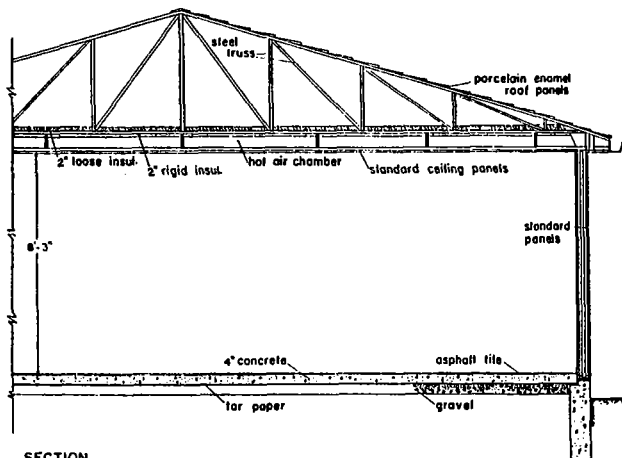
The idea of a metal house did not originate with Strandlund. Buckminster Fuller designed a metal house in 1929 known as "Dymaxion". Foster Gunnison began mass-producing partial metal houses in 1944. And in 1949, Ray and Charles Eames built their much celebrated metal house. Whereas the Fuller and Eames houses were widely publicized and praised by architectural critics, they did little to solve the post war housing demands. The Fuller house resembled a flying saucer while the Eames house proved too expensive to build for the middle-income bracket. Strandlund's Lustron, with a moderate price of \$7,000 to \$9,000, introduced alternative, affordable housing to the general public in a style reminiscent of the popular ranch house.

Lustrons were available in four exterior pastel colors: blue, tan, gray, and yellow; interior colors in gray or yellow with blue roofs. Interiors, also metal, were available in gray or yellow. Because of the porcelain-enamel finish walls never needed painting and the roofs never needed re-roofing. The steel panels are unaffected by sun, rain, salt water or air, or chemical fumes. Lustrons are rust proof, vermin proof, decay proof and fire proof. The only non-steel in a Lustron are the concrete floor slab and its asphalt tile.

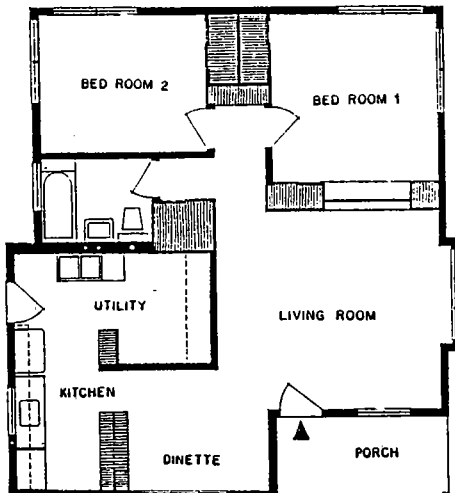


EXTERIOR PANS INTERLOCK, ARE SCREWED TO FRAME

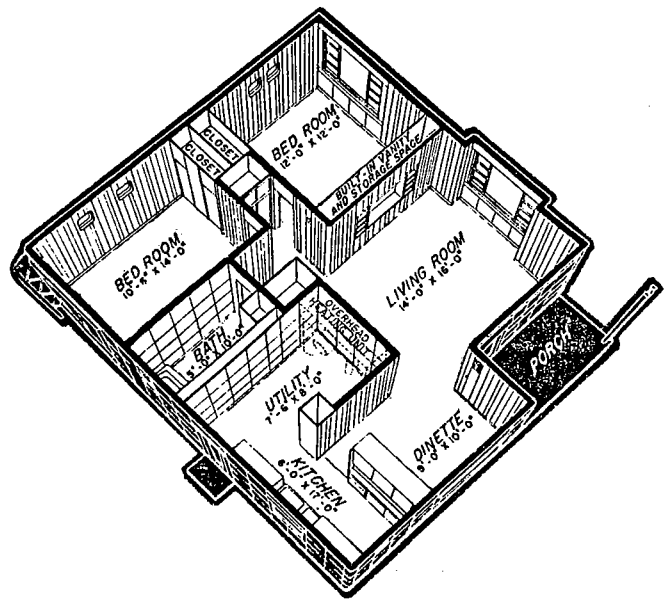
The Architectural FORUM June 1947



SECTION



Lustron Floor Plan
(from Architectural Forum, 1947).



Lustron Isometric Drawing
(from Architectural Forum, 1947).

Lustrons contain over 1000 square feet of living space in two and three bedroom models. Built-in features include a pass-through counter between the kitchen and dining room, a built in vanity, dressing table, and drawers in the master bedroom, recessed shelves in the living room and closet space for coats, linen and cleaning equipment. Most have sliding doors to increase accessibility. The radiant heating unit is located in the utility room ceiling. The kitchen is fluorescent-lighted and is equipped with cabinets, sink, exhaust fan and featured a unique combination clothes/dish-washer.

Four years after its creation, the Lustron Corporation was forced to file for bankruptcy. Missing the initial post-war housing market, a shortage of steel, and mismanagement contributed to the Corporation's demise. In the end, a total of 37.5 Federal dollars had been experimented with, leaving behind the largest government sponsored housing venture and a few thousand metal houses scattered across the East and Midwest.

In Nebraska it is interesting to note that a Lustron house may show up where you least expect it. One would assume that the more populated cities such as Omaha and Lincoln would exhibit the majority of these homes. This is not the case. Lustrons in Nebraska appear across the state primarily in the smaller communities such as Valley (1), Columbus (1) and Fremont (2). The disbursement of Lustrons can be explained by looking at the goals of the company: "Lustron promises to make the economies heretofore realized only in these mass developments available in smaller cities and rural areas where volume builders do not exist". Also, the company concentrated its activities in small towns and rural areas, where labor was not unionized and the house's low fire insurance rate proved particularly attractive.

In the reconnaissance survey of the Western Sandhills and High Plains three Lustron houses were located and recorded. Two are located in the community of Venango. PR06-003 is a three-bedroom unaltered model with tan walls and blue roof. PR06-005 is a two-bedroom model, altered by mustard-yellow exterior paint and on the West facade by a frame addition. PR02-008 is a gray three-bedroom located in Elsie and has not been altered. Photographs and data on these three houses are included in the Settlement Inventory.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

Throughout the duration of the Perkins County survey, random observations were recorded concerning historic context topics which appear potentially significant based on their extant material resources. The general impressions recorded by the survey team were then combined with a post-survey analysis of all documented properties to determine recommendations for future work. The primary recommendation consists of National Register nominations for all eligible properties listed in the Preliminary Inventory (see p. 22-56). In addition to this, three other topics are listed below for potential historic context development.

Potential Historic Context Reports

The potential context reports identified by the survey include the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production (H.C.: 08.07) farming region as discussed in p. 28 to 36, and Dwelling in Dispersed and Clustered Settlement (H.C.: 16.05). The number of associated Settlement properties and the importance of agriculture to the state make these obvious choices. In addition to this, a multiple property study of Lustron metal houses in Nebraska would include the three examples found in the county.

Conclusion

It is the belief of those associated with this project that people, and the places in which they live, are the raw materials of history. A community, its inhabitants and its development through time are proper subjects for our contemplation, for it is through such studies that we gain a fuller comprehension of the present. The value of cultural material studies and preservation of historic buildings was politically expressed on a national level in 1966 by Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine as he addressed the eighty-ninth Congress of the United States regarding the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act.

"In less than 200 years, America has grown from a sparsely populated agricultural community of States to the most urbanized and technologically advanced Nation in the world. During these 20 decades and before, American genius has created marvels of mortar and stone... In the next four decades alone, our expanding population and urbanization will require more construction than we have witnessed during our first 20 decades. This means that much of what we have created to date is threatened by the thrust of bulldozers or the corrosion of neglect. In many instances, efforts to preserve sites of architectural and historic value will be too late. America must move promptly and vigorously to protect the important legacies which remain. This we can achieve without blunting our progress. And this achievement will enrich our progress. With sensitive planning, the past and the future can live as neighbors and contribute jointly to the quality of our civilization."

In the year 1990, America has now passed the halfway point in the four decade period of expansion delineated by Senator Muskie. Have we achieved the balance of preserving our past while progressing toward the future? In some cases we have, but in many others we have not. This is not to say that all historic buildings are worthy of preservation. Many of the older buildings which stand in the path of necessary expansion have rightfully been removed. However, the heightening of public awareness and the education of our elected public officials towards the concept of historic preservation is a topic not open to

subjectivity. It is imperative that the documentation and review of threatened historic buildings be conducted and appropriate decisions be made regarding the cultural value of historic buildings. It is toward this goal that the Western Sandhills and High Plains region has been researched and documented. It is the hope of those involved with this project that the historic properties within the region will be enjoyed by many future generations of Nebraska citizens.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Perkins County Town and Rural Inventory Listings of All Surveyed Properties

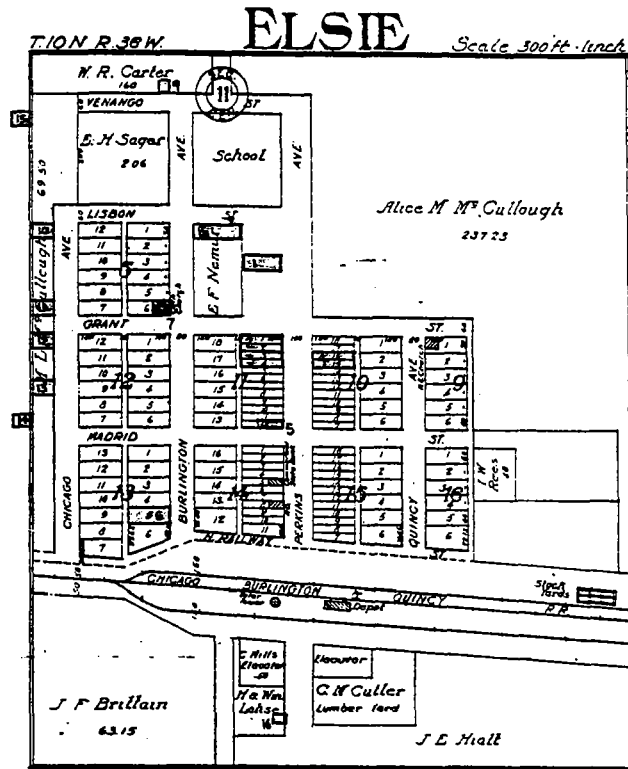
PR00: PERKINS COUNTY RURAL INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDGS.	SITES	STRU. OBJ.		
PR00-001	C1912	FARM	08.07	12	0	0	2	08.1 C
PR00-002	C1907	FARM	08.07	5	0	0		08.1 C
PR00-003	C1905	FARM	08.07	6	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-004	C1914	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1 C
PR00-005	C1907	FARM	08.07	2	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-006	C1905	FARM	08.07	7	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-007	C1910	FARM	08.07	5	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-008	C1946	FARM	08.07	6	0	0	0	08.1 P
PR00-009	C1903	FARM	08.07	3	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-010	C1905	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1 C
PR00-011	C1903	SCHOOL	06.01.01	1	0	0	0	06.3.1:1 C
PR00-012	C1903	FARM, RELOCATED CHURCH	08.07	11	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-013	C1912	HOUSE	08.07	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
PR00-014	C1900	HOUSE	08.07	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
PR00-015	C1903	HOUSE	08.07	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
PR00-016	C1918	FARM	08.07	3	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-017	C1909	FARM	08.07	6	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-018	C1905	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1 C
PR00-019	1928	TRINITY LUTH. CHURCH & SCHOOL	02.03.02	2	1	0	2	02.1.4:1 E
PR00-020	C1918	FARM	08.07	8	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-021	C1923	FARM	08.07	6	0	0	0	08.1 P
PR00-022	C1910	FARM	08.07	6	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-023	C1921	FARM	08.07	6	0	1	2	08.1 E
PR00-024	C1900	ABAN. FARM	08.07	2	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-025	C1890	FARM	08.07	2	0	0	2	08.1 C
PR00-026	C1912	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-027	C1928	FARM	08.07	2	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-028	C1915	DISTRICT #15 SCHOOL	06.01.01	1	0	0	0	06.3.1 C
PR00-029	C1903	FARM	08.07	3	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-030	C1910	FARM	08.07	6	0	0	1	08.1 C
PR00-031	C1910	ABAN. FARM	08.07	2	0	0	1	08.1 C
PR00-032	C1909	ABAN. HOUSE	08.07	1	0	0	1	16.5.1 C
PR00-033	1928	BARN	08.07	2	0	0	0	08.1.02 C
PR00-034	C1910	FARM	08.07	6	0	0	0	08.1 C
PR00-035	C1905	FAIR ACRES FARM	08.07	6	0	0	1	08.1 C
PR00-036	C1930	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1 C

PR00-037	C1895	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-038	C1908	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-039	C1929	FARM	08.07	5	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-040	C1923	FARM	08.07	7	0	0	2	08.1	P
PR00-041	C1912	FARM	08.07	5	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-042	C1910	ABAN. HOUSE	08.07	1	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-043	C1903	FARM	08.07	6	0	0	2	08.1	C
PR00-044	C1908	ABAN. HOUSE	08.07	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR00-045	C1905	FARM	08.07	3	0	0	2	08.1	C
PR00-046	C1917	FARM	08.07	2	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-047	C1900	FARM	08.07	3	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-048	C1903	ABAN. FARM	08.07	2	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-049	C1895	ABAN. HOUSE	08.07	2	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-050		FARM	08.07	6	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-051	1890	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1	C
PR00-052	C1900	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1	C
PR00-053	C1910	FORMER SOD HOUSE	08.07	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	E
PR00-054	C1908	HOUSE	08.07	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
PR00-055	C1910	FARM	08.07	5	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-055	C1895	ABAN. HOUSE	08.07	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR00-057	C1917	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-058	C1928	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1	C
PR00-059	C1895	ABAN. FARM	08.07	3	0	0	2	08.1	C
PR00-060	C1914	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1	C
PR00-061		FARM	08.07	1	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-062	1894	ABAN. FARM	08.07	2	0	0	1	08.1	C
PR00-063	C1890	ABAN. FARM	08.07	3	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-064	C1900	FARM	08.07	7	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-065	C1905	SOD HOUSE RUINS	08.07	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
PR00-066	C1912	FARM	08.07	6	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-067	C1905	ABAN. FARM	08.07	3	0	0	2	08.1	C
PR00-068	C1907	FARM	08.07	7	0	0	3	08.1	C
PR00-069	C1900	ABAN. FARM	08.07	4	0	0	0	08.1	C
PR00-070	C1910	ABAN. SCHOOL	06.01.01	1	0	0	0	06.3.1:1	C
PR00-071	C1919	FARM	08.07	3	0	0	2	08.1	C
PR00-072	C1910	ABAN. FARM	08.07	4	0	1	1	08.1	C
PR00-073	C1905	FARM W/SOD HOUSE	08.07	2	0	0	1	08.1	C
PR00-074	C1925	FARM	08.07	4	0	1	1	08.1	C
PR00-075	C1927	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1	C

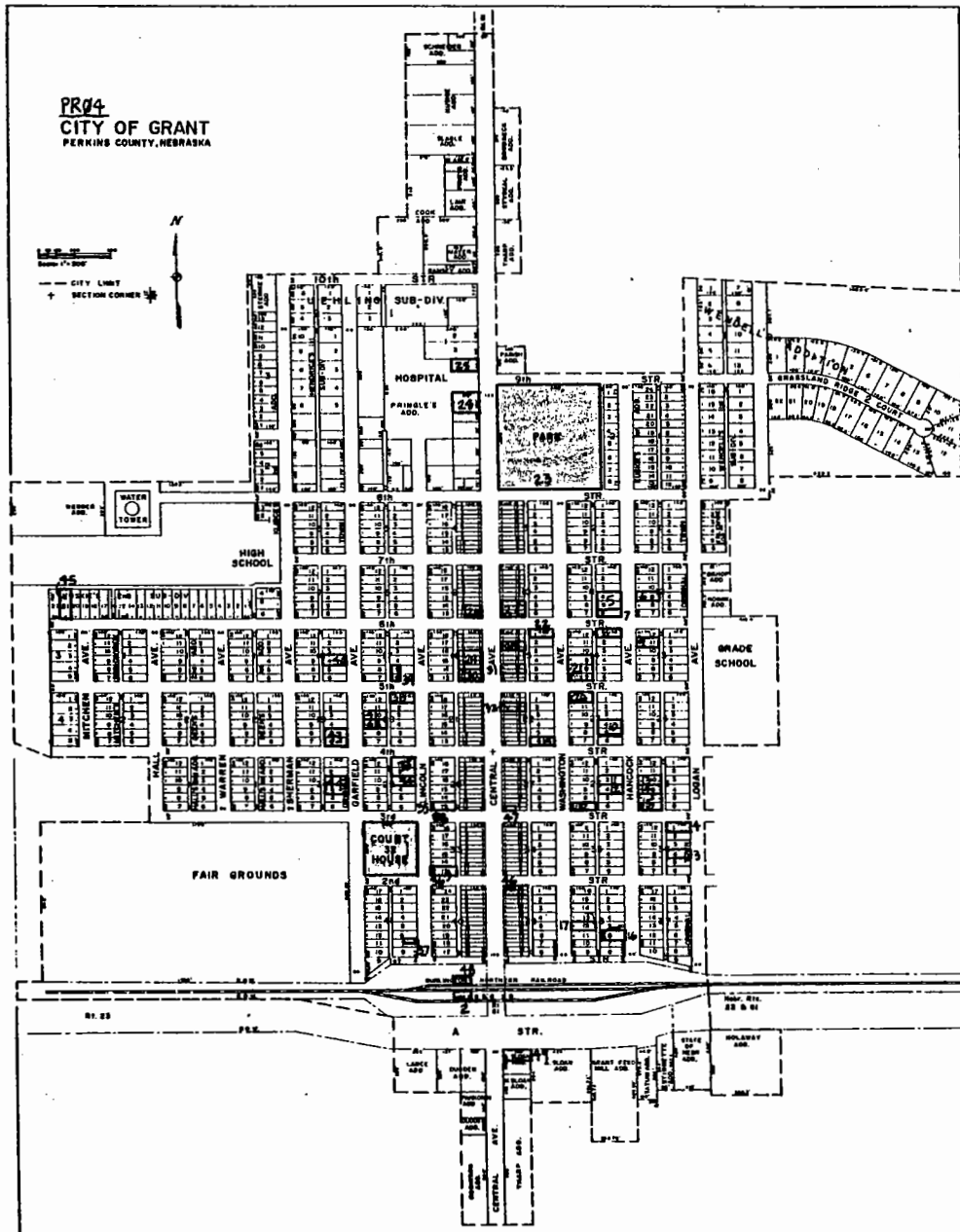
PR01: BRANDON, PERKINS COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING BLDGS. SITES	STRU. OBJ.	PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
PR01-001		FORMER SCHOOL	06.01.01	1	0	0	06.3.1:1 C



PR02: ELSIE, PERKINS COUNTY INVENTORY

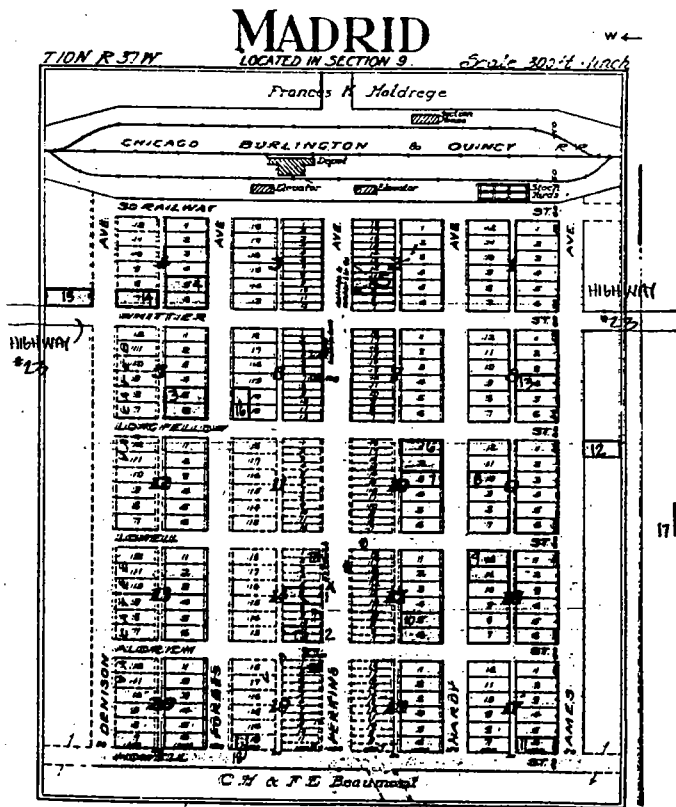
NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE	
				BLDGS.	SITES	STRU.	OBJ.		
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PR02-001	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR02-002	C1938	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR02-003	C1912	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR02-004	C1906	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR02-005	1903	CUTTLERS STORE	12.02.07	1	0	0	0	12.1.1	C
PR02-006	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR02-007	C1895	RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD CHURCH	02.01.01	1	0	0	0	02.1.4	E
PR02-008	1952	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	E
PR02-009	C1913	WATER TOWER	15.01	0	0	1	0	15.5.2	C
PR02-010	C1911	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR02-011	C1907	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR02-012		FORMER CHURCH	02.99	1	0	0	1	02.1.4	C
PR02-013	C1905	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR02-014	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR02-015	C1895	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	1	16.5.1	C
PR02-016	C1909	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C



PR04: GRANT, PERKINS COUNTY INVENTORY

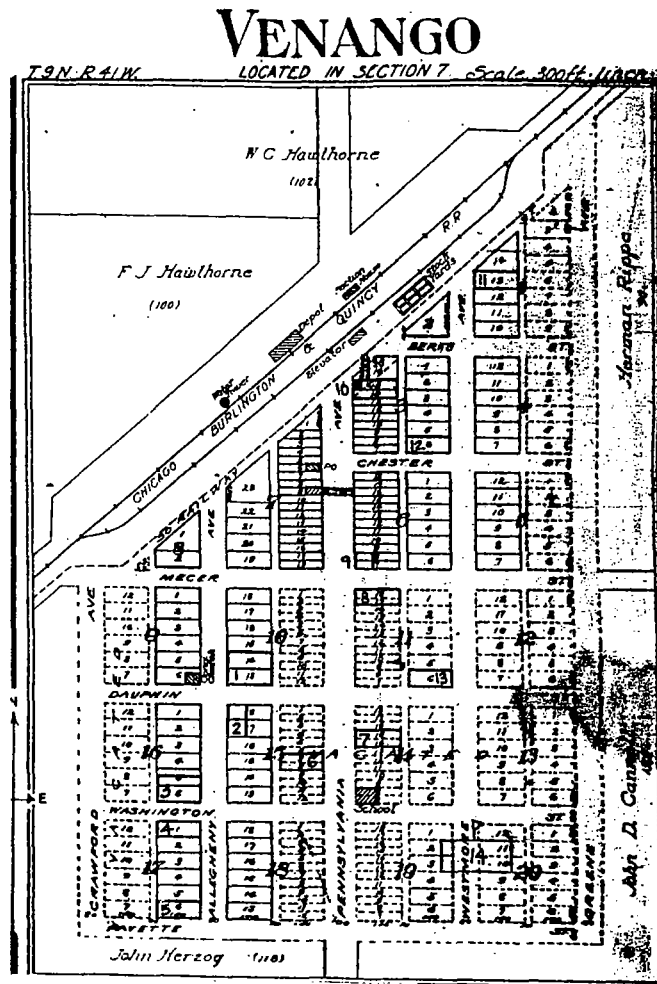
NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	BLDGS.	SITES	CONTRIBUTING STRU. OBJ.	PROPERTY TYPE	DOE	
=====									
PR04-001	C1920	PERKINS COUNTY COURTHOUSE	04.03	1	0	0	0	04.1.7	NRHP
PR04-003	C1913	FORMER MEETING HALL	05	1	0	0	0	05.1.1	C
PR04-004	C1903	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-005	C1921	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-006	C1924	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C

PR04-007	C1905	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-008	C1919	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-009	C1918	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
PR04-010	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-011	C1901	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-012	C1901	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-013	C1923	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-014	C1920	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-015	C1901	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-016	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-017	C1915	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-018	C1938	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-019	C1928	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
PR04-020	C1919	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-021	1926	CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH	02.05.01	1	0	0	0	02.1.4	C
PR04-022	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-023	C1936	GRANT CITY PARK	07.06	1	0	0	10	07.5.1	E
PR04-024	C1918	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	1	16.5.1	C
PR04-025	C1923	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-026	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-027	C1901	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	E
PR04-028	C1898	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
PR04-029	C1895	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	1	16.5.1	P
PR04-030	C1924	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
PR04-031	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-032	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-033	C1935	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
PR04-035	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-036	C1899	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-037	C1916	CABIN	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-038	C1947	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-039	C1927	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-040	C1923	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-041	C1920	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-042	C1920	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-043	C1920	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-044	C1903	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-045	C1940	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR04-046	C1930	CONOCO STATION	13.02	1	0	0	0	13.3.3.3	E
PR04-047	C1890	BANK/COMM. BLDG.	15.05, 12	1	0	0	0	15.1.1, 12.1	E
PR04-048	C1925	GRAIN CO-OP OFFICE	12.05.03	1	0	0	0	10.2.1	C
PR04-049	C1918	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C



PRO5: MADRID, PERKINS COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING BLDGS. SITES	STRU. OBJ.	PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
PRO5-001	C1890	HOUSE	16.05	1 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-002	C1923	HOUSE	16.05	1 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-003	C1895	HOUSE	16.05	1 0	0 0	16.5.1	E
PRO5-004	C1907	HOUSE	16.05	2 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-005	C1900	LUMBER YARD/HARDWARE	11	4 0	0 0	11.4.2.1	P
PRO5-006	C1909	HOUSE	16.05	1 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-007	C1924	HOUSE	16.05	1 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-008	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	2 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-009	C1907	HOUSE	16.05	2 0	0 0	16.5.1	P
PRO5-010	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	2 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-011	C1914	HOUSE	16.05	2 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-012	C1927	HOUSE	16.05	2 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-013	C1890	HOUSE	16.05	3 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-014	C1916	HOTEL	12.02.07	1 0	0 0	12.3.1	C
PRO5-015	C1922	HOUSE	16.05	2 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-016	C1910	CHURCH	02	1 0	0 1	02.1.4	C
PRO5-017	C1921	HOUSE	16.05	2 0	0 0	16.5.1	C
PRO5-018	C1928	WATER TOWER	15.01	0 0	1 0	15.5.2	C



PR06: VENANGO, PERKINS COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY	DOE	
				BLDGS.	SITES	STRU. OBJ.	TYPE		
=====									
PR06-001	C1912	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
PR06-002	C1930	HOUSE	16.05	4	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR06-003	C1948	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	E
PR06-004	C1918	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR06-005	C1948	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
PR06-006	C1908	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR06-007	C1934	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR06-008	C1919	VENANGO GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	0	13.3.3.4	C
PR06-009	C1928	FILLING STATION	13.02	1	0	0	0	13.3.3.3	E
PR06-010	C1905	FORMER LUMBER YARD	12.02.07	4	0	0	1	11.4.2.1	P
PR06-011	C1909	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR06-012	C1920	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR06-013	C1925	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
PR06-014	C1929	DIST. #65 SCHOOL	06.01	1	0	0	1	06.3	C
PR06-015	C1925	WATER TOWER	15.01	0	0	1	0	15.5.2	C

GLOSSARY

This Glossary lists architectural styles common in Nebraska during the mid-to-late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Style names are followed by dates suggesting the general time span, and brief descriptions identifying characteristic features. These summaries were defined by the NESHPO and included in their publication "Historic Places: The National Register for Nebraska" (NEBRASKAland, Jan.-Feb., 1989).

Italianate 1870-1890

A popular style for houses, these square, rectangular, or L-shaped two-story buildings have low-pitched hip roofs, with wide eaves usually supported by heavy brackets, tall narrow windows, and front porches. In some cases, the roof may be topped with a cupola.

Queen Anne 1880-1900

A style which enjoyed widespread popularity in the state, these two-story houses have asymmetrical facades and steeply pitched rooflines of irregular shape. Characteristics include a variety of surface textures on walls, prominent towers, tall chimneys, and porches with gingerbread trim.

County Capitol 1880-1910

This was a popular form for courthouses in the state and was inspired by the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C. Usually situated on a courthouse square, these square-shaped monumental buildings exhibit corner pavilions, a prominent central domed tower, and Neo-Classical or Romanesque styling.

Romanesque Revival 1880-1920

These buildings are of masonry construction and usually show some rough-faced stonework. The Roman or round-topped arch is a key feature. Facades are asymmetrical and most examples have towers, brick corbelling and horizontal stone banding.

Late Gothic Revival 1880-1930

A later version of the Gothic style, these buildings are generally larger and use heavy masonry construction. In churches, masonry is sometimes used throughout the structure. The pointed-arch window opening remains a key feature, however designs are more subdued than those of the earlier period.

GLOSSARY

Eclectic 1890-1910

An eclectic building displays a combination of architectural elements from various styles. It usually resulted when a house designed in one architectural style was remodeled.

Shingle 1890-1920

Characteristics include a two-story asymmetrical house with hip, gable, or gambrel roof; walls covered wholly or in part with wood shingles; little or no ornamentation; and extensive porches.

Neo-Classical Revival 1900-1920

Front facades are usually dominated by a full-height porch with the roof supported by classical columns. Symmetrically arranged buildings show monumental proportions, balanced windows, and a central entry.

Renaissance Revival 1900-1920

The style is characterized by formalism in plans, raised basements, low hipped roofs covered with clay tiles, symmetrical facades with wide overhanging eaves, arched entries and second story porches. Window treatments vary from story to story and are flat or round arched.

Georgian or Colonial Revival 1900-1930

A style characterized by a symmetrical facade enriched with classical detail, gable or hip roof, and eaves detailed as classical cornices. The standard window is rectangular with a double-hung sash. The Palladian window is often used as a focal point.

Spanish Colonial Revival 1900-1920

These buildings, which have a southwestern flavor, show masonry construction usually covered with plaster or stucco, red-tiled hipped roofs, and arcaded porches. Some facades are enriched with curvilinear and decorated roof lines.

Prairie 1900-1930

This movement, popularized by Frank Lloyd Wright, emphasized the integration of a building and its site. Elements of the style include a low-pitched roof line with wide overhanging eaves, two stories high with one-story porch, and an overall horizontal emphasis in the design.

GLOSSARY

Period 1920-1930

Influenced by the styles of medieval English and French country cottages, these houses are usually of two stories and display irregular massing, steeply pitched roofs with slate or clay tile covering, massive chimneys, half-timbering, casement windows, and attached garages.

Modernistic 1930-1940

Art Deco, the earlier Modernistic phase, was used primarily for public and commercial buildings and is characterized by angular composition, with towers and vertical projections and smooth wall surfaces with stylized and geometric motifs, including zigzags and chevrons. Art Moderne, the later version, shows smooth wall finishes without surface ornamentation, asymmetrical facades with a horizontal emphasis, flat roofs, rounded corners, and bands of windows or curved window glass creating a streamlined effect.

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